Joseph Henry Zerbey

HISTORY

of

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Pennsylvania

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¶ A COMPLETE INDEX WILL BE FOUND IN THE LAST VOLUME OF THIS HISTORY.

—The Publisher

Gilberton Borough Was Chartered In 1873

(From "Pottsville Republican"-"Morning Paper," April 10-16, 1934)

The history of Gilberton Borough was compiled by the students of the Gilberton Borough High School. The work was under the supervision of M. J. Shore, Social Studies Teacher, Gilberton Borough High School.

The following references were consulted: "History of Schuylkill County, 1811-1881"; "Year Book and Church Directory of Gilberton Methodist Episcopal Church;" "History of Frackville," by Rev. Johnathan W. Miller; "Schuykill County in the World War," by E. L. Clifford; "Atlas of Schuylkill County, 1875."

The Students of the High School gratefully acknowledge information furnished by the following persons: Harry Kantner, John Weeks, Jr., Wm. D. Fairley, Rev. Frank Rineer, Miss Julia Keating, Miss Katie Gleeson, Bernard Caufield, Henry Gottschall, Dr. H. C. Bowman of Gilberton, Wm. R. Middleton of Maizeville; Justice of the Peace John Meade, Thos. Crosby, Jos. Cullen, Mrs. John Selgrade, Mrs. Margaret Cassidy of Mahanoy Plane; Rev. John H. Danks of Shenandoah. The students also wish to thank Michael Wayne of Girardville for his excellent article on the early history of Mahanoy Plane.

The small settlements that now make up Gilberton Borough originally belonged to Mahanoy Twp. The men from Mahanoy Plane, Maizeville and Gilberton walked to the Lanigan's poll to vote. Later Gilberton, Maizeville and Mahanoy Plane became a part of West Mahanoy Twp. when it was formed from Mahanoy Twp.

Gilberton Borough was formed from West Mahanoy Twp. and chartered in 1873. It was named in honor of John Gilbert, a wealthy coal operator. The borough was laid out by P. W. Sheafer.

The first borough election was held March 1, 1873. The officers elected were Chief Burgess, E. S. Seaman; Councilmen, Jos. Byers, John Hullihan, John Shandy, John Brennan and Wm. Ryan. The first school directors were J. H. Olhausen, President; Jeremiah O'Connor, Secretary; Wm. Agin, Patrick McLaughlin and Jos. Zimmerman. Mr. Olhausen was also the first Post Master at Mahanoy Plane.

Gilberton Borough is divided into three wards, the East Ward, known as Gilberton, the Middle Ward, known as Maizeville, and the West Ward, known as Mahanoy Plane.

Gilberton Borough lies between the Bear Ridge Mountain on the north and the Broad Mountain on the south. It extends from Mahanoy Twp., on the east to Butler Twp. on the west, a distance of about four miles. At no place is the valley more than one-half mile wide. On account of its peculiar geographical position, Gilberton

Borough is often called the "Shoe-String" Borough. The assessment valuation of the Borough in 1880 was $545,725. In 1932-33, the assessed valuation of Real Estate and Occupation was $1,490,050; Valuation of Occupation $67,480; Value of Real Estate $1,422,570. The number of taxables is 1,949.

Population

The population of the borough in 1880 was 3173. The first settlers were chiefly Welsh and English, with a sprinkling of German and Scotch. The Irish came in large numbers in the early '70's. About 1880 the Lithuanians and Polish began to come in. A few years later the Greeks followed. Today, the population of Gilberton Borough is 4227 distributed as follows: Gilberton, 1833; Maizeville, 742; Mahanoy Plane, 1652.

Early Settlers

The first houses built on Main St., were those of J. K. Buehler, R. Colihan, Mrs. McLaughlin, John Hullihan, James Hullihan, J. Cavanaugh, Patrick McGee and Bernard Caufield. The Company houses were built long before the above houses were built.

Education

In 1886, the first Borough High School was established in the old school building at Maizeville. The advanced students from Gilberton and Mahanoy Plane attended this school. The first Principal was Peter S. Berger, of Tremont. The old building was declared unsafe on account of mining operations so in the summer of 1887 it was torn down and most of its lumber used in the erection of a new building at the extreme eastern part of Maizeville. In the fall of 1887, this building was occupied for the first time. It was called "The Central High School." In 1890 Mr. Berger resigned on account of ill health. He was succeeded by A. J. O'Connor, who after several years teaching, moved to Phila., to take up teaching there. M. C. Butler succeeded A. J. O'Connor and continued as Supervising Principal until 1900, when he resigned to go back to the Cass Twp. Schools after an absence of over twenty years. P. J. Moore succeeded Mr. Butler as Supervising Principal.

In 1912, W. W. Ridge of Centralia, was appointed Supervising Principal, and Miss Mame Meade of Mahanoy Plane made his assistant. C. A. Burke of Latimer, near Hazleton, was appointed Supervising Principal in 1913, and continued until 1918 when he resigned to accept a position in the schools of Olean, N. Y. Miss Meade served as Ward Principal 1918-1919. M. R. Reifsnyder was Supervising Principal from 1919 to 1920.

In 1920, Prof. Burke returned as Supervising Principal and reorganized the High School. The old building at Maizeville was entirely inadequate as a High School building. The student body was put on half-time, the Senior High School meeting in the morning and the Junior High School taking the afternoon. This state of affairs forced the School Board to erect a new High School building at Gilberton. This building was completed in 1925, but on account of financial troubles with the contractors it was not occupied until 1926. The schools of the borough are organized on the six-two-four plan. In 1913 the student body in the High School numbered 20; today it numbers 247.

Following is the directory of the Gilberton Borough teachers and School Directors of today (1933-1934): C. A. Burke, Supervising Principal of High School; Teachers, Michael J. Shore, Social Studies; Thos. A. Caufield, Chemistry, Biology; Helen M. Donaghue, English, Gen. Science; Martin F. Kerrigan, Algebra, Gen. Science; Mary M. Kilcullen, Eng. History, Library; Kathryn F. Walsh, Latin; Mary M. Wayne, English, Latin; John L. Miller, Mathematics; John Donnely, Health.

Other teachers who taught in the High School were the following:

W. W. Ridge, Science; Leon P. Rex, Science; Ralph Shuman, Science; Herman Reed, Science; Jeannette Bevan, Music; Emily Schneider, Music; Mae Farrell, Latin; Emily Hamburger, English; Emily Harding, Library.

The following are teachers in the 7th and 8th grades (1933-1934):

Irma G. Balliet, History; Nellie C. Carey, Spelling, Penmanship; Aldona V. Burke, Geography; Mary H. Busavage, English, History; Mary Gaughan, Arithmetic; Mary M. Mullahey, Music, Health; Anna Wright, English.

Other teachers who taught in these grades were the following:

Jos. O'Boyle, Arithmetic; Katie Gleeson, Arithmetic; Arthur James, English; Edna Brosius, English.

The following are the teachers of the grades from 1 to 6 in the Gilberton building: Margaret O'Boyle, Mae Doolin, Elizabeth McDonald, Sarah E. Morgan, Mary V. Short, Ruth Davis.

The Draper building school teachers are as follows: Jennie Campbell, Julia Francis.

The Maizeville School teachers are: Isabelle Cupchunis, Helen A. Smith, Emily E. Harding, Kathryn A. Smith.

The Mahanoy Plane teachers are: Anna V. Wright, Anna McCauley, Mary E. Gaughan, Mary Connors, Margaret Reynolds, Anna E. Smith, Margaret E. Hanlon. Substitutes are Leah Gaughan, Dolores Griffin, Jean McCarthy. The retired teachers are Katie Gleeson and Bernard Caufield.

The School Directors are Manetho Williams, Pres.; Francis Brennan, Vice-Pres.; Michael McCool, Secy.; M. J. Kerrigan, Treas.; Dr. L. F. Donaghue, John J. Moran, Solicitor, and C. A. Burke, Officer.

Gilberton High in Sports

When Gilberton took possession of its new high school building in 1926, Coach John Miller set to work at once to organize basketball, football and track teams. The basketball and football teams have carried on with a fair share of success. In 1927, Mart Smith won the "B" Class broad jump, 18 feet 9 inches. On March 14, 1934, the basketball team won the B Class championship of District 11, by defeating South Whitehall in the Summit Hill Gymnasium, in a close and hard fought game; score 29-27. The following players represented the team: Albert Burchill, f; Michael Sabrinsky, f; John McCabe, c; Matt Yedsena, g; William Labadis, g; Albert Zuban, f; George Boner, g; Peter Seder, f; James Keating, c; Francis Krull, c; Harry Morgan, f; John Baruskie, g.

Mahanoy Creek Flood Control

The Mahanoy Creek Flood Control Project is sponsored by the C. W. A. The object of this project is to dredge, relocate and wall the Mahanoy Creek, from Mahanoy City to Ashland in order to prevent the mines and towns from being flooded after heavy rains. It is estimated that this project will cost $250,000 and give work to 1,000 unemployed men. All boroughs, townships, es-

tates and coal companies profiting by this work are requested to contribute fixed sums of money to help meet expenses. Gilberton Borough's share is $5,000. The members of the Gilberton Borough Council are Daniel Smith, President; Peter Stec, James Brehony, Michael Chabin, Peter Conchis, Joseph Burke, John Swank, Raymond Thomas, Matt Rice, George Butcavage, Secretary; Michael Swank, Supervisor; John J. Moran, Solicitor; Thomas Cullen, Treasurer.

GILBERTON (EAST WARD)

Mines Around Gilberton

The Gilberton Colliery was opened in 1862 by Kendrick and Tyson. A small breaker was built in 1863 from which the first coal of this section was shipped. In the spring of 1864, the Gilberton Coal Co. was organized with James Sturgis as its first president. This company succeeded Kendrick and Tyson. In 1872 the Gilberton Coal Co. built a larger and better equipped colliery. After operating for several years. the Gilberton Coal Co. failed and in March, 1879, it passed into the hands of the present owners, the Phila. and Reading Coal and Iron Co. The Company houses in Gilberton were built in the early sixties from trees growing in the valley where Gilberton now stands. The trees were felled by Andrew Kline and Dan Lindermuth. George Kantner was the teamster who hauled the logs to the mill.

Just east of the Gilberton Colliery was a small mining population known as the Penitentiary Colliery. It was operated by J. B. Wright. Atkins Furnace Colliery was owned and operated by the Atkins Brothers. It was located on the hillside just south of Turkey Run. The Furnace Colliery was later operated by Harry Zerby. Later Mahlon Gerber, of Tamaqua, leased it and worked it for quite a while, when it passed into the hands of P. S. Seaman, of Frackville. It is now being worked by the P. and R. C. and I. Co. The Draper Colliery on the south side of Gilberton was opened in 1863 by a Wm. Smith who worked a drift for some time. The three groups of houses known respectively as "Long Row", "Stable Row", and "Quality Hill", were known collectively as "Smith's Side", named in honor of the Wm. Smith to whom we have referred. Smith sold his interest to the Mammoth Vein Consolidated Coal Co., who sank the first slope in 1869 to a depth of 400 feet.

This company reorganized as the Hickory Coal Co. with J. W. Draper as president. The colliery took his name and ever since has been known as Draper Colliery. The settlement on the south side of Gilberton is known now as "Draper Side." The Hickory Coal Co. failed in 1876, and passed into the hands of the trustees. It since became the property of Oliver Ditson and Harry L. Williams. This company worked the colliery for some time and then sold out to the present owners, the P. and R. C. and I. Co. In 1876. the Hickory Coal Co. sent from its Draper Colliery to the Centennial Exhibition at Philadelphia a piece of dressed coal measuring 8 feet by 10 feet by 12 feet. John Dorsey had charge of the mining of this piece of coal and Thomas Morgan, an expert pickman, dressed it. This was probably the largest piece of coal ever mined in the world.

In 1878, John A. Dutter, of Tremont, opened the North Laurel Ridge Colliery. This Colliery, better known as Dutter's Colliery, was located between Gilberton and Maizeville on the north side of the main highway. South Laurel Ridge Colliery was built by Mr. Dutter on the south side of the valley. This colliery was a failure and practically

put Mr. Dutter out of the mining business. The two collieries were taken over by the S. H. Barret Company of Phila. The North Laurel Ridge known as No. 21 colliery was finally worked out by the P. and R. C. and I. Co. Mr. Dutter was the first mine operator to use the idea of driving rock holes to tap the coal that the other company had left behind.

Post Office in Company Store

The first post office in Gilberton was conducted by the Gilberton Coal Co. in their large Company store at the top of what is now known as Shaft Street. This store was then managed by Jay Williams. Before Gilberton had a commissioned post office the Gilberton Coal Co. sent a boy on a mule two or three times a week to Mahanoy City to bring down the mail. The company store was the distributing point. John Matthews, later inside foreman at Draper Colliery, was the boy who carried the mail. On April 1, 1878, the post office was transferred from the Gilberton company store to the Draper store, a company store connected with the Draper Colliery. This store was originally owned and managed by the Lewis Brothers, David and John, but it was under the management of Jay Williams. The Gilberton store was sold to Alex Scott, who later became Sheriff of Schuylkill County. To this day the store is known as Scott's store, although its management has passed through many hands. N. S. Boner managed the store for Mr. Scott. He was assisted by James Jamison, Owen Brown, Clay Evans, John Wagner and Timothy Smith.

After the P. and R. C. and I. Co., secured the lease on the Draper Colliery, the Draper Company Store ceased to be run as a company store. It was then owned and operated by Jay Williams, who later took in N. S. Boner as a partner. After Mr. Williams' death, the store was purchased and operated by Mr. Boner until his death in 1918. The business under the name of the Boner Estate is now conducted by Mr. Boner's daughter, Mrs. Harry Kantner. Two particular stores have served the people of Gilberton under one management or another for almost seventy years. These two old stores are landmarks in the East Ward of Gilberton Borough. Here, too, met the good housewives; and the stores served as a clearing house for the latest bit of gossip. The coal company that owned the "Company Store" always deducted the store bills at the colliery pay office. In those days the miners were paid monthly. The writer heard of men who had worked at one of the Gilberton collieries for years and never drew a pay on pay day—their pays were always overdrawn by purchases at the "Company Store." Fifty years ago the "Company Store," was the chief financial institution in every mining community. It financed your birth, your marriage and your death.

Methodist Episcopal Church

The only Church in Gilberton today is the Methodist Episcopal Church. During the days of the Civil War, a group of men in Gilberton coveted a religious training for their children and inspiration of divine worship for themselves. They were but a few in number. This valley was then a dense forest of timber. The Mahanoy Creek was an excellent trout stream. Game was plentiful. Deer, bear, foxes and other wild animals were common.

The dwellings up Long Row and Gilbert Patch were largely Welsh. They met in different houses to worship. The Rev. McConnell, then stationed at Mahanoy City, came down every other Sunday to conduct services for them. The Sunday School was organized prior to 1865, but when is not definitely known. In 1865 it was in a healthy condition as the following record will show:

Gilberton, June 16, 1865

"Sunday School was opened by reading the 42nd Psalm and Prayer by John Murray. Very warm day.

Male scholars	22
Female scholars	59
Female teachers, ...	6
Male teachers	3
	90

There were several local preachers, Jacob Pillinger, John Murray, Robt. Weightman, and Caleb Harrington.

The private homes now ceased to accommodate the people. The Superintendent of the Draper Colliery gave them the use of an old carpenter shop located just beyond the Boner Estate store. This structure was about 30 x 60 feet. The members papered and painted it and the carpenters of the colliery built a pulpit and it was not long until the old carpenter shop was transformed into a chapel. No records give us definite data who administered to the needs of the people, but Preacher Boyd, and "Pappy" Davis as he was called, and Thomas Harrison "filled in" most of the time. It was not many years until the carpenter shop became too small to accommodate the increasing population. It was at first thought best to secure ground on the same side of the creek as the carpenter shop stood, but the final settlement was in favor of the plot of ground now occupied by the church. It was without a deed for fifty-nine years. Under the everlasting leadership of God and the consecrated pastor and the devoted people, the church was built and dedicated upon the present location in 1870. The first record of the church shows the following trustees: David Lewis, Samuel Bryant, Isaac Purnell, and Samuel Parfit. There is no record of the proceedings of the trustees until 1872. During the pastorate of Rev. John Knapp, the parsonage was on "Quality Hill." A great fire swept the hill that year and the parsonage and important records were completely destroyed. Gilberton, Frackville and Mahanoy Plane were a circuit and two pastors served the three churches. Gilberton and Mahanoy Plane were together for awhile. Now all three charges have their own pastors. As stated, Preacher Boyd, "Pappy" Davis and Thomas Harrison were among the first pastors to serve this charge, but we cannot give the order of their pastorates. The other pastors who served are as follows: Rev. Eli Pickersgill, 1872-1873; Rev. John W. Knapp, 1873-1874; Rev. Richard Morley, 1874-1875; Rev. John Raymond, 1875-1876; Rev. Henry Davis, 1876-1877; Rev. Stephen Thomoff, 1877-1878; Rev. Cornelius Hudson, 1878-1879; Rev. J. Wharton Bradley, 1879-1880; Rev. W. W. Wisegraver, 1880-1882; Rev. Henry Hess, 1882-1883; Rev. T. T. Mutchler, 1883-1884; Rev. A. M. Vivien, 1884-1885; Rev. R. C. Wood, 1885-1886; Rev. Geo. S. Kerr, 1886-1887; Rev. Jas. Sampson, 1887-1888; Rev. A. A. Thompson, 1888-1890; Rev. John Bell, 1890-1892; Rev. John Neil, Resigned Aug., 1892; Rev. John Rittgers, 1892-1894; Rev. John H. Smith, 1894-1896; Rev. W. H. Zweizig, 1896-1901; Rev. H. H. Kinney,

1901-1902; Rev. E. Potts, 1903-1904; Rev. Geo. L. Shaeffer, 1904-1906; Rev. R. J. McBeth, 1906-1909; Rev. L. P. Karlholsen, 1909-1910; Rev. W. S. Dawson, 1910-1912; Rev. J. H. Barnes, 1912-1914; Rev. J. K. Stetler, 1914-1917; Rev. Jos. Guernsey. 1917-1918; Rev. Benj. Scull, 1918-1922; Rev. Jas. L. Hunt, 1922-1925; Rev. Frank Rineer, 1925-1934; Rev. E. H. Thomas, 1934-.

The church property has undergone many repairs, repainting and alterations. During the pastorate of Rev. John Bell, a parsonage was erected upon the rear of the church lot. In the fall of 1898, during the pastorate of Rev. W. H. Zweizig, the church was raised and the rear addition built. The remodeled church was dedicated Nov. 13, 1898. In 1904 Rev. Geo. L. Shaeffer had a bell placed in the belfry. Under the leadership of Rev. L. P. Karlhofen, a cement wall surmounted by an iron fence was erected around the property. During the pastorate of Rev. W. S. Dawson, a steam heating plant was installed in the church and a hot water system in the parsonage. In 1925, under the pastorate of Rev. Frank Rineer, the church was raised eleven feet and a new Sunday School room added, a new roof and new metallic ceiling were put on, a new floor was laid and new pews installed. The parsonage was raised and remodeled throughout. The work done during Rev. Frank Rineer's pastorate cost $24,000. The estimated value of Gilberton Church and parsonage, including land and buildings, is $50,000. During the Flu Epidemic of 1918 the M. E. Church was used as an "Emergency Hospital."

The Methodist Church of Gilberton has furnished the ministry with the two young men, Rev. Howard Fox and Rev. Harry Williams.

The Primitive Methodist Church

The Primitive Methodist Church was built in 1890. Its chief sponsor was Wm. Jarvis, a local merchant. Its first pastor was the Rev. C. H. Higginson. Other pastors who served the church were Rev. Shuman, Rev. McGuiness and Rev. Albert Walker. The congregation was small and after a precarious existence, the church property was sold to a Lithuanian congregation in 1906.

Early Education in East Ward

The first school in Gilberton, was opened in 1865, in the house now occupied by Justice of the Peace John Chappell. The early settlers will remember this house as the one occupied by Johnnie Connors.

The front room was used as the school-room while the rest of the house was tenanted. The first teacher in this school was Harry Berkheiser, who later served as station agent at Frackville. Other teachers were, Patrick O'Connor and Dennis Doyle. In 1870, the second school building was erected. It was a large one-room building that accommodated two teachers. The building is still standing, but it has been converted into private homes. It is now occupied by the families of John Harding and Harmah Garraway. Thomas Crosby, of Mahanoy Plane and a Miss Spencer, of Mahanoy City, were the first teachers in this school, Mr. Lovett and a Mr. Ross were early teachers here. Other teachers were Frank O'Boyle, Annie O'Boyle, Susan Matthews, Henry O'Kane, and Frank McDonald.

The one-room building on the Gilberton side became too crowded, so about 1874 another large one-room building was put up at the extreme eastern end of Long Row. The first teachers in this building were Chas. E. Breckons, Kate O'Connor and Mary Fennely.

In 1876, the board erected a four-room building on Main St. The early principals of this building were Frank McDonald, Jas. C. Purcell, Chas. E. Breckons and M. J. Whittaker. In the grades the following teachers served at different times: Susan Matthews, Fannie Richardson, of Mahanoy City, Lizzie Wynne, P. J. Moore, Mary Cavanagh and Katie Gleeson. Miss Gleeson at one time had 130 pupils in the primary grade. This state of affairs brought about the adding of two rooms to the Main St. building, thus making it a six room building. The following men served as principal of the East Ward schools: Edw. F. Dolan, Jos. O'Boyle, Jas. Maurer, M. J. Shore, and Bernard Caufield. Other grade teachers of Gilberton (East) in addition to those already mentioned were: Katie Mahoney, Sadie Hoban, Julia Farrell, Rebecca Linton, of Mahanoy City; Lydia Evans, Lottie Wascher, Minnie Evans, Lou Lindenmuth, Mary J. Horan, Katie McLaughlin, Loretto Close, Ida Dawson, Lizzie Thomas, Alice Cavanagh, Margaret Reynolds, Katie Short, Pearl Lewis, Louise Stabe, Ellen Foley, Edna Brosius and Nellie Murphy.

In 1896 a two-room building was built on the Draper Side. This building accommodates two teachers. The first teachers were Minnie Evans and Hattie James. Other teachers in this building were: Bernard Caufield, Jessie Campbell, Nellie Murphy, Ellen Foley, Barbara Balliet, Loretto Close, Edna Brosius, Jennie Campbell, Irma Balliet, and Julia Francis.

Night School

Night schools were opened in Gilberton Borough as early as 1874 and continued until the passage of the compulsory school attendance law.

Boys in those days were working in the breaker at the age of nine and ten years and the night schools were opened for them. The schools were open two hours a night and continued for five months, which meant 200 hours of instruction. The salary was $20 a month. The course of study comprised everything from A-b-c's to preparation for a mine foreman's certificate. Many ambitious adults took advantage of those night schools. The following were night school teachers at Gilberton (East Ward): Henry O'Kane, M. J. Whittaker, M. P. Whittaker, Thos. Kane, Thos. Collahan, E. F. Dolan, Jos. O'Boyle, M. J. Shore, Wm. James, Jas. Carrick, Kate Short, Alice Hullihan and Bernard Caufield; at Maizeville (Middle Ward): Michael Gallagher, A. J. O'Connor, P. S. Berger, P. J. Moore, Joseph O'Boyle, M. J. Shore, Wm. Rouse, Katie McLaughlin and Lydia Evans, and at Mahanoy Plane (West Ward): John Coughlin, Henry O'Kane, M. C. Butler, Jas. Flynn, W. J. Smith, M. J. Shore, Annie Murphy, and John Smith.

The Hose Company

The Continental Hose Co. No. 3, was chartered Sept. 12th, 1887. The charter members were Garret Keating, Geo. Kantner, Daniel D. Evans, Rufus Y. Fox, Wesley Lindenmuth, Alvin Fox, Wm. Condron, Edward F. Dolan, George A. Boner, N. S. Boner, Richard Close, Bernard Caufield, Thomas Caufield, Frank Nice, John Hullihan, Sr., Patrick Hogan, Henry Fox, Calvin Fox, Alexander Jacobs, John Keating, Jeremiah Lindenmuth, Patrick McGee, Jr., Frank Blackwell, Nicholas Cantwell, Nicholas Neidzinski, and Joseph Nowakoskie. The first officers of the company were: John O'Boyle, Pres.; Daniel D. Evans, Secy.; Geo. Kantner, Treas.; and Alex Jacobs, Foreman. The company bought a Clapp and Jones Steamer in 1887, but they never bought horses. The town teamsters or the Reading Company's teamsters took care of the Steamer

in case of fire. The old hose house was destroyed by the high water of the Mahanoy Creek. The company established temporary headquarters in the store room now occupied by Green's Cigar Store, until it bought its present building, the Wm. Jarvis property. About ten years ago the borough council bought the company an International Fire Truck. Shortly afterward the company bought a Waterous Fire Truck. The company is now well equipped with fire fighting apparatus. The present officers of the Continental Hose Company are: Chas. Williams, Jr., Pres.; Francis Barry, Vice Pres.; John Weeks, Fin. Secy.; Geo. Kantner, Rec. Secy.; Robert Guinther, Foreman; Harry Hinkle, Chauffeur; John Morgan, John Grafton, M. J. Shore, Trustees.

Gilberton "Riot"

A "riot" occurred at Gilberton on Aug. 21, 1893, at the intersection of Main and Church Streets. The Schuylkill Traction Railway's right of way extended up Church St., then out by the company house occupied by Joseph Lomas, then crossed the R. R. tracks leading into Gilberton Colliery and then followed the main highway to Boston Run. But, instead of following this right of way. the Traction Co. without the consent of the Borough Council re-routed its tracks after a new survey. The new route instead of turning north on Church St. continued east along Main St. crossed the P. and R. tracks near where the Water Shaft now stands and then proceeded through the swamp bordering the Mahanoy Creek. This piece of track, extending from the Methodist Church to the Gilberton Water Shaft, about 50 yards in all, was the cause of the Gilberton Riot. The Traction Co. continually neglected to macadamize or pave its tracks through the Main Street in order to make it safe for teamsters and drivers. As a result of the high unprotected rails, Gilberton Borough Council was continually paying damages for broken wagons, broken wheels, injured horses, etc. Upon the advice of their solicitor, the Gilberton Borough councilmen of the East Ward, Thomas Foley, John W. Stone and Liddell Gurley, assisted by the townspeople, tore up the track between the Church and the shaft, on the evening of Aug. 21. 1893. The line was cut, but soon the rumor spread through the town that the Schuylkill Traction Co. was sending a body of men from Girardville to relay the tracks. Hundreds of people awaited the arrival of the workcar, or the "Dinkey" as it was commonly called. About 9:00 P. M. the "Dinkey" arrived amid great excitement. It was loaded with men, picks, shovels and rifles from the N. G. P. Armory at Girardville. The men in the "Dinkey" had about made up their minds to go home on account of the large crowd, when someone shouted "Homesteaders." This term referred to the members of the State Militia who put down the riots at Homestead, Pa. One of the men in the "Dinkey", went to the platform of the workcar with a rifle in his hands, a scuffle ensued. the rifle was discharged and James Parfitt fell mortally wounded. There was a lull for a second or two after this shot, then rifles in the car opened up. Wm. Holland fell mortally wounded, Parfitt and Holland died within a few hours. The following men were wounded but recovered: Evan Davis, James Hullihan, (Big Jim) and William Connors, Richard Amour, one of the men employed on the workcar was seriously wounded but recovered. After a long and hard fought trial in court, the men accused of shooting the two young men were acquitted.

Gilberton Water Shaft

This shaft was sunk by Messrs. Tierney and Dolan, in 1895-1896, to a depth of one thousand and seventy feet. The object of sinking this shaft was to drain the Gilberton and Draper mines. The water was hoisted to the surface in four large tanks each with a capacity of 2,400 gallons. It took about fifty-five seconds to hoist a tank. The discharging of the tank was an interesting sight to strangers. The invention of new machinery has done away with this method of draining these mines, thus dispensing with the services of many pumpsmen.

Automatic pumps controlled by electricity now pump the water up the shaft. The first super-structure was made of iron. It was destroyed on the morning of March 26, 1902, by the engineer pulling the tank too far. It was replaced by a wooden structure, which was completed April 20, of the same year. In connection with the water shaft, we wish to mention one incident. Rufus Fox, of Gilberton, while working at the mouth of the shaft lost his balance and fell into the shaft. In falling, he grabbed the rope of the descending tank, clinging to the rope, down, down, he went for over a thousand feet until the tank struck the water in the sump. The tank being reloaded, was brought up at the same terrific speed with Fox still clinging to the rope. The tank was discharged and again dropped, taking Fox down for the second time before his perilous position became known. Upon being hoisted the second time he was rescued not much the worse for his harrowing experience.

Mine Accidents

Coal mining always takes its toll of human lives, and Gilberton has paid heavily. Inside Foreman Edward Breckhons and Captain John Williams, a miner, were fatally burned by an explosion of fire damp. This occurred at the Gilberton Colliery in the early days of its operation. Later occurred another serious accident when John R. Davis and Wm. Morgans were smothered in the Gilberton mines in 1889. Aug. 24, 1894, four gas explosions occurred in the Gilberton mines killing three men and burning twenty others. So terrific were the explosions that, besides the human lives lost, six mules were roasted to a crisp. The men killed were: Inside Foreman, Cornelius Leahy, Louis Ball, of Gilberton, and Frank McCormick, of Shenandoah. Aug. 8, 1930, the worst accident in the history of coal mining in Gilberton Borough occurred on the furnace slope of the Gilberton Colliery. For several months this slope was closed while undergoing extensive repairs. The slope would be ready for operation in a day or two when without warning a fall of rock crashed more than fcur hundred feet down the slope to where the men were working. Hearing the roar of the oncoming avalanche of timber, props, rock and debris, some of the men saved their lives by diving between sills or jumping behind the cribbing along the rib. Eleven men were trapped in the rush and crushed. Of these eleven men, six were killed outright, two died in the hospital and three were maimed for life. The dead were: Charles Yursas, 43, Gilberton, wife and five children; Patrick Birmingham, 48, Gilberton, wife and five children; Wm. Burke, 42, Maizeville, wife and one child; Matthew Kucher, 29, Maizeville, wife and one child; Jos. Komerosky, 21, Turkey Run; Chas. Strucha, Shen-

andoah; Michael Mallich, 48, Frackville, five children; Geo. Melobovage, (Neilubowciz) 35, Frackville, wife and two children. The injured were Edw. Phillips, 23, Gilberton; Geo. Davis, 26, Gilberton, wife and two children; Philip Berwick, 42, Gilberton, wife and two children.

The World War

Those from Gilberton who served in the World War were:

John Algonis, Clyde Auman, Howard Balliet, Claude Balliet, George Boner, Jos. Boreese, Joseph Burke, Wm. Bussil, Thos. Close, John Condran, Martin Condran, Uriah Davis, Thos. L. Evan, Clyde Fellows, Raymond C. Francis, Edw. Gerrity, Daniel Hinkle, Howard Hinkle, Harvey Hinkle, David James, Thomas Jones, Michael Kaltuskey, Jos. Keating, Jas. Keating, Jos. Kegolis, Wm. Kessler, Paul Kessler, Rhinehart Kessler, Anthony Lapachinsky, Thomas Leahy, Walter Lewis, Wm. Lomas, Wm. Lynch, Raymond Terrill, Nathan G. Thomas, John Thomas, Albert Ulbinsky, Geo. Uponavage, Matthew Washalefsky, Michael Wesolfskie, Jos. Williams.

Geo. Maley, Jos. Marcinkiewicz, Wm. Mercencavage, Peter Mercencavage, John Miller, John V. Miller, Wm. Miller, Anthony Millcavage, Wilson Moyer, Henry McCabe, Stanley McCluskey, Adolph Narcowich, Daniel Newhouser, Wm. Phillips, Thos. Phillips, John Plopis, Wm. Popley, John Powanda, John Yaczys, John Yob, Joseph Yob, Frank Yotsmickus.

John Powell, Andrew Powlick, Exedor Purestky, Robt. Rafferty, Jos. Rafferty, Peter Rendecavage, Wm. Rendicavage, Andrew Reslousky, Peter Rice, Chas. Rice, Jos. Rogawage, Geo. Schlack, Jr., Adam Selvas, Dr. Thos. C. Shore, Medical Reserves, Paul Sinkus, Peter Sinkus, Chas. Stine, Alphonsus Stine, SATC, Villanova College, William Sticker, Charles Sulkitis, John Swank.

The nurses who served were as follows: Nellie Close, who saw service in Hawaii and the Mexico Reg. Army, France; Carrie Newhouser, and Agnes Shore, A. E. F. France.

Robert E. Rafferty died at Camp Mills, Long Island, Oct. 17, 1918; Jos. Kegolis, Private Co. C, 145th Inf. A. E. F. France, was wounded; Daniel W. Hinkel,Pvt. Co. "H" 109 Inf. A. E. F. France, wounded; William J. Lynch, Pvt. Co. "C" 109 Inf. A. E. F. France, wounded; Wm. Rendacavage, Pvt. Co. "H" 111 Inf. A. E. F. France, wounded.

American Legion

The Robert E. Rafferty Post No. 620, Pennsylvania, was organized Feb. 9, 1930, in the Grammar School building. at Gilberton. The permanent charter was received July 28, 1932. The following is a list of the officers: Commander, George Upanavage; Adjutant, Paul J. Kessler; Finance Officer, Jos. J. Boreese; 1st Vice Commander, Jos. Rafferty; 2nd Vice Commander, Albert Ulbinsky; Sgt. at Arms, Jos. Williams.

Baseball

In 1884, Gilberton was represented on the diamond by the "Greenfielders," all of whose players have long since been called "home". A decade later there was the famous "Nellie Bly," team; but Gilberton's most representative team was that managed by Joseph O'Boyle, and was composed of the following players: Chas. Hinkle, lf., Thomas Lomas, cf., George Colbey, lf., Thos. Barry, 1b., Mart Delaney, 1b., Thos. Hanney, 2b., Harry Morgan, 3b., George Lotwick, ss., Paddy Lavelle, c., Stephen Davis, c., Dave Davis, p., George Britton, p., John

(Count) Rogers, p., Jos. Nice, p., Matt Kennedy, p.

Football

From 1902 to 1908 sporadic attempts at football organization were made, but without much avail. In 1908, Gilberton was represented by the following team: Harry Kessler le., Thos. Shore, le., John Boner, lt., Edw. Barry, lg., Max Plocinik, c., Harry Walters, rg., Howard Balliet, rt., Tom Balliet, re., Guy Pelton, q., Ray Thomas, q., Charles Copley, rh., Michael Birmingham, lh., Edw. Northey, lh., Frank Copley, (Coach) fb., M. J. Shore, Mgr.

The 1920 team was composed of Wm. Edwards, Wm. Sheehan, Geo. Zuby, Thos. Boner, John Gottschall, Michael Sub., Eddie Marac, Aloysius Hulihan, Peter Sinkus, Albert Marac, Anthony Zuby, George Caton, Albert Schlack, Jos. Butswinki, Geo. Upanavage, Peter Rice, Jas. Doyle, Charles Foulk and M. J. Shore, Mgr. These teams played football for the love of the game, but soon commercialism reared its head and we see the advent of the professional player and the exit of the home town boy. "Butch" Boselego, "Gyp" Downey, Johnnie Finn; and the great college stars, Fritz Pollard, Joe Alexander, Joe Williams and others wore Gilberton uniforms.

The "Orange Buds" of Gilberton and the "Maroons" of Mahanoy Plane developed several outstanding players: Morgan Evans, Kenneth Weeks, Matt Rice and Billy Rogers. Probably the two greatest players produced by Gilberton were John Gottschall and Matt Rice.

Gilberton Floods

The history of Gilberton cannot be closed without mentioning "Lake Stoddard." On account of mining operations, Gilberton is gradually subsiding. In fact, there are parts of the town that have sunk twenty-five feet during the last fifty years. In this particular sink gathered the surface water of the town forming a miasmatic pool, more commonly called "Lake Stoddard" whose existence menaced the public health as well as threatened properties with destruction because of threatened inundation of cellars and yards. In 1910 Dr. L. F. Donaghue, then coroner of Schuylkill Co., was instrumental in having the lake removed. Smith and Campion contractors of Mahanoy City did the filling in, while Harrison Ball of the same town raised the houses. At a banquet in Rice's Hall the citizens of Gilberton presented Dr. Donaghue with a gold headed cane as a token of their appreciation of his persistent and finally successful efforts in ridding the town of this foul pool, "Lake Stoddard".

Among the speakers at the banquet were M. J. Shore, Toastmaster: Chas. O. Smith of Smith and Campion, Mahanoy City; Harrison Ball, Mahanoy City; Wm. Gregory, Shenandoah agent for the Sheafer Estate; Mr. Barnhardt, Cashier of the Girardville National Bank; E. C. Malarkey, of Girardville; Thos. J. James, District Superintendent of the Reading collieries in the Gilberton District; Jacob Purnell, President of the Gilberton Council; Frank Morgan, Supervisor, William Edwards, Richard Parfitt, E. J. Wynne, Jos. McCourt, Dr. Thos. Hughes and Dr. L. F. Donaghue, Coroner of Schuylkill County. Gilberton is flooded annually but the most serious flood was that of September, 1924, when the water flooded the first floors of the majority of the homes from the extreme western part of the town up to Week's Hotel. Six boats were brought from Lakeside to be used in transporting people and food from house to house. With the poling of rafts and the rowing of boats through "Duck

A FLOOD SCENE AT GILBERTON



The scene above is a familiar one to residents of Gilberton and thereabouts, for this flood condition has existed in the town for many years, whenever there is a heavy rainfall.

Street" during the high water, truly it may be said that Gilberton is the "Venice" of Schuylkill County.

MAIZEVILLE (MIDDLE WARD)

Maizeville, the Middle Ward of Gilberton Borough was named for Michael F. Maize, who with Levi Miller of Pinegrove built and managed the Stanton Colliery, which was opened in 1870, by Miller, Hoch & Co. The breaker has long since been torn down. In 1903 Madeira Hill and Co. built a new breaker on the site of the old Stanton Colliery, but after several years it was abandoned and torn down. The Brookwood washery just south of Corktown was built in 1900. It was owned and operated by Meyers, Smith & Co. This company later sold out to Madeira Hill & Co. The Roosevelt Colliery was a small mining operation located north of Maizeville, close to the Shenandoah road. It was owned and operated by Wm. R. Middleton and Co., from 1905 to 1910 .

Maizeville is commonly called the "Flour Barrel" from the fact that one of the earliest settlers used a flour barrel on his house for a chimney. At one time, Maizeville was only a flag station but today all through trains between Phila. and Williamsport stop to make bus connections for Shenandoah and Pottsville.

Maizeville has two churches, St. Ludwig's Lithuanian, and St. John's Greek Catholic. The P. M. Church, after passing into the hands of the Lithuanian congregation was known as St. Ludwig's Church. Its first pastor was Rev. A. M. Milukas, curate at St. George's Lithuanian Church in Shenandoah. After worshipping in Gilberton for several years, the Lithuanian congregation moved to the new St. Ludwig's Church in Maizeville. This church was destroyed by fire Sept. 26, 1914, and rebuilt in 1915. The old church in Gilberton is now a private home. During the time the church was being rebuilt, the Lithuanians held services in the Greek Catholic Church. The following priests have served St. Ludwig's Church since its organization: Fathers Milukas, Dumchis, Tashkunas, Durickas, Augustaitus, Valaitis, Valeneliunas, Bakunas, Norbutus and the present incumbent Father Jerome Tishkus.

St. John's Greek Catholic Church of Maizeville was dedicated July 4, 1908. The different priests who have served it are: Rev. Leo Levitsky, Rev. Wasil Maniowsky, Rev. Jos. Korillo, Rev. Zoldack, Rev. John Fekula, Rev. Vladimir Obushkewicz, and the present pastor, Rev. Michael Pazdrey.

Early Families

Among the early families of Maizeville were the following: Wm. Rause, Jos. Francis, Steve Eltringham, C. Simmons, David Clancey, Steve Middleton, Dr. Windsdor, John Leahy, Mrs. McLaughlin. Jas. Quinn, Thos. McCook, Thos. McCoy, Michael Roach, W. Jackson, Patrick Horan, Jas. Horan, P. J. Caufield, E. Thompson, E. W. Davis, Thomas Painter, Francis McKeon, Mrs. Burns, M. Gallagher. One of the first houses in Maizeville was that of J. Kilcullen

Early Education

In 1875 a four room building was erected at the western end of the town. Among the first teachers are noticed the names of Henry O'Kane, Michael Gallagher, and his sister, Mary, Lydia Smith, Kate Deehan, Mary McAndrews and Susie Matthews Other teachers who taught at later periods were A. J. O'Connor, Mary Ellen McCook, Hattie Burchill, P. J. Moore, M. J. Shore, Mary McLaughlin, Miss Balliet of Jackson's, Jas. Flynn, Hattie James,

Mary Horan, Lizzie Rouse, Ellen Foley, Agnes O'Boyle, Nellie McLaughlin, Nellie Miller, Julia Kerrigan, Doris McCaffery, Ella Lytle, Nellie Walsh and Mary Wayne.

Friendship Hose Co. No. 1

The Friendship Hose Co. No. 1 was organized in Maizeville in 1887 with the following officers: Thomas McLaughlin, president; Wm. R. Middleton, secy.; John Trevethan, treas. Among the members were the following: Jas. McLaughlin, Jos. McLaughlin, Jas. Trevethan, Thos. Manion, Wm. James, Patrick Horan, Jas. Horan, Steve Middleton, John Kilcullen, Ike Evans, David Evans, Henry Gottschall, Liddle Gorley. The company disbanded several times and just as often reorganized; but about fifteen years ago it went to its last fire and all that remains today is the name above the door.

War Record

Maizeville in the World War was represented by the following:— Jos. Arlucavage, Phelix Aseutavage, Matthew Barry, Brian Balavage, Jos. Bendinski, William Booble, John Burke, Jas. T. Burns, Dominick Carai, John Conchis, Steve Copeni, Andrew Cushie, Robert Fellows, Geo. J. Francis, Chas. Gaffney, Frank Galasy, Wm. M. Goldsworthy, Anthony Green, Peter P. Jones, Jos. A. Kilcullen, Walter Kline, Anthony Koinsky, Andrew Koinsky, Simon Kumalusky, Jos. Marnocella, Geo. A. Mullinousky, Patrick McLaughlin.

Frank McLaughlin, William McLaughlin, Joseph J. Neverosky, William Ryan, Joseph J. Smith, Frank Stuncavage, Joseph A. Waranovich, Frank Yourskititus.

Joseph Arlucavage, Private Co. "I" 111th Inf. A. E. F.was killed Oct. 22, 1918; Anthony Koinsky, Private Co. "A" 315th Inf. A. E. F. killed June 2nd, 1918; Joseph Kilcullen, Pvt. Co. "L" 23rd Inf. A. E. F. France, wounded; and Andrew Cushy A. E. F. France, wounded.

In 1919 the people of Maizeville erected a beautiful monument in honor and memory of her boys who served in the World War. The monument bears the following inscription:

"Lest we forget the sacrifices made by these men,
That liberty and equality might not perish from the earth."

The Last of the Early Settlers

William R. Middleton, whose place of business is well known in Maizeville has been connected with the Notary Public, Real Estate and Insurance business for many years. Born in New Castle, Schuylkill County, on April 14, 1853, he moved to Shenandoah in 1870, and two years later moved to Maizeville where he has resided for the past 60 years. Mr. Middleton graduated from the Iron City Business College, in Pittsburgh, in 1873, and attended the Dickinson Seminary in Williamsport From 1877 to 1914 he held the position of Justice of the Peace. He was a clerk in the offices of the Reading Railroad, and later was promoted to chief clerk to the assistant train master. He worked as checker for the Stanton Coal Co. from 1884 to 1890. His reputation, therefore, has become a splendid symbol of service rendered with the charm and remarkable personality which has assured him the success which he has so splendidly achieved and which he so well deserves.

The Stage Coach

In the early 70's Maizeville took on the appearance of a Western town when the big six horse stage coach running between Shenandoah and Frackville pulled up in front of Stephenson Middleton's "Washington House," to unload or

take on passengers. Frank Hess was the first driver of this stage coach and was followed by Al Schoener. On one of its trips the stage went through the Maizeville bridge killing one of the passengers, a Mr. Whalen, of Cumbola.

MAHANOY PLANE—WEST WARD

The West Ward of Gilberton Borough, now called Mahanoy Plane, was first called Montgomery. The name was applied about 1831 by Colonel Robinson of the Girard Estate, when the place was heavily forested timber land. The name Mahanoy Plane dates back to 1861, when the famous mountain plane was built to the top of the Broad Mountain to connect the Mill Creek Railroad with the Mahanoy and Shamokin branch of the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad. Mahanoy Plane on account of being situated at the foot of the plane is often called the "Foot" or the "Plane."

Colonel Robinson delighted in bringing his Philadelphia friends with him on his Girard Estate business trips that they might fish in the creek for trout. These men considered this creek the finest trout stream in this section of Pennsylvania. About 1859, sulphur water was pumped into the creek at Bowman's colliery at Mahanoy City, and the trout fishing was forever destroyed. Farmers miles down the stream found their mill races blocked by tons of dead fish. The hill to the south of the Valley continued to be a rich piece of pine and hemlock forest. Cool, clear mountain springs were plentiful and for many years after the early people had built homes in the Valley, the water supply was furnished by these springs. People carried water from the hillside for home use.

Land ownership in this section of the borough was the cause of long dispute and litigation. The Eisenhood family laid early claim to the land. Their claim was shared by the Brady family, a branch of the Eisenhoods. Little interest was taken in the land by the Eisenhood and Brady families, and taxes were not paid. After Morris Robinson came from Maryland to sink the first slope on the northern hillside, these two estates pressed their claims but the Girard Estate had gained a hold and the older claimants lost out to the Girard Estate. The mining of coal in this part of the borough began with the sinking of this old slope about 1861. A few houses were built high along the northern hillside. The first of these was to become the home of Morris Robinson, who had charge of the sinking of the slope. Another was built by Anthony Devitt, who sold it, in 1862, to John Wayne, who had come from southern Maryland to take charge of some of the mining developments. The Coulter home was another of these old homesteads. The Valley still remained heavily wooded in 1862. It was not until the mining was well under way that the land was cleared in the Valley for the houses now referred to as the "company houses." They were built by Robinson for his workers and were called Robinson's Patch. The houses passed on with the ownership of the colliery. After the mine was developed, it came into the hands of the Boston Coal Co., whose interests were cared for by Kinsley and Hammer. Both men built houses on the hillside.

The Bear Ridge Coal Co. took possession in 1870. In 1879 the Bear Ridge Coal Co. sold out to the P. & R. C. & I. Co. They operated the place until the burning of the east breaker in 1910.

Breaches caused the hillside houses to be vacated. The old Robinson house sank into a breach and the Wayne home was torn down and its lumber put into the second Wayne home which stood at the western end of town until it was sold to the Girard Estate by John Wayne's son in 1921. The Girard Estate now holds title to all the land of the extreme end of town except the Lenahan home.

Bear Ridge Colliery No. 2 was opened by the Bear Ridge Coal Co., in 1874. Previous to the opening by this company the tunnel had been driven by Stephen Girard 122 yards, but nothing more was done until 1873, when the Bear Ridge Coal Co. drove it 80 yards farther and struck the mammoth vein. The West Bear Ridge colliery No. 1 has long been abandoned but East Bear Ridge Colliery No. 2 changed hands several times and is now being worked by the Thomas Coal Co.

Lawrence Colliery

This colliery was first opened during the year 1866, but very little was done until it was leased by Jacob S. Lawrence, Michael Merkel and Philip Mongold, on January 1, 1868. This colliery is situated on the north slope of the Broad Mountain at Mahanoy Plane. After Lawrence Merkel and Co. had operated this colliery for some years they transferred their lease to Lawrence and Brown, who continued until the failure in 1892, when the colliery became the property of the land owners, the P. W. Sheafer Estate. The mine was drowned out in 1902, and remained idle until Madeira Hill and Co. leased it.

Girard Railroad

In 1830, Stephen Girard, wishing to send his coal by rail over the Broad Mountain, built the road known as the Danville and Pottsville Railroad. This railroad connected the Mahanoy Valley with the Mill Creek railroad at St. Clair. It crossed the Valley south of Corktown, the eastern section of Mahanoy Plane, continued up the mountain where the Madeira Hill colliery now stands and came out on the top of the mountain about 100 feet east of the present culvert. At this very point you can still see the cut that the Girard engineers made on the mountain side over one hundred years ago. There are still land marks of the Girard Railroad at Kauffman's dam, Morris Junction, Darkwater and Wadesville. The rails were made of wood with a strap of flat iron on the top. The loaded cars, not much larger than a mine car today were hoisted from the Mahanoy Valley up the plane to Frackville by means of dropping a tank loaded with water.

After a shipment of 13,347 tons of coal, the road was abandoned in 1836, and remained idle for over twenty-five years, or until the Mahanoy Plane was completed in 1861. The present town track in Mahanoy Plane is a branch of the Danville and Pottsville Railroad. It is said that Stephen Girard purchased all his coal land in and around Mahanoy Plane for the sum of thirty thousand dollars.

The Mahanoy Plane

The Mahanoy Plane is situated on the northern slope of the Broad Mountain, between Frackville and the town of Mahanoy Plane. It was built in 1861 and has been in operation from July 18, 1861 until Feb. 27, 1932, when it was closed on account of shipping the coal by way of Tamaqua. The head of the Plane is at an altitude of 524 feet above the foot of the Plane. It has a pitch of 28 degrees at its steepest point.

The length of the Plane is 2460 feet. The length of the hoisting rope is 3695 feet, with a diameter of 2 and 5-8 inches. The length of the tail rope is 2682 feet and the diameter of the tail rope is 1 1-2 inches. The life of the hoisting rope varies from three to seven million tons. The hoisting load is 200 tons.

When the plane is in operation, there are two engineers on each eight hour shift, working one hour on and one hour off. Everything going right they can hoist a three car trip every three minutes. This is equivalent to 200 tons. The 2500 horsepower engines have a piston stroke of 72 inches and a cylinder bore of 54 inches. The main drum wheel is twenty feet in diameter. The new engines which have been installed are 6000 horsepower.

The hoisting signals are given by means of electric bells, and it takes just ninety seconds to land a trip, or at the rate of thirty-five feet per second. These engines are the second most powerful in the world. The most powerful engines are said to be in the Panama Canal Zone. The steam boiler plant is of the latest construction. The fuel used in it is buckwheat, rice and barley coal. The nine sets of boilers in this plant require, every working day, a supply of 150,000 gallons of water and 125 tons of coal. Nine of these sets burn barley coal and three burn rice coal. Six sets of boilers are in use at all times and are fed by automatic stokers. For the first eight months of 1925, the total number of cars hoisted over this Plane was 86,214, containing 3,448,560 tons of coal. The total number of tons of coal hoisted for each hour the Plane worked in the above eight months would be 1,338. More coal is hoisted over the Mahanoy Plane in ten hours (13,380 tons) than passed over the old Girard Railroad (13,347 tons) during its lifetime (1830-1836). Up until the closing of the Plane, all empty cars and cars loaded with anthracite coal on the Shamokin Division were moved by the Plane. Each 24 hours, approximately 800 to 900 cars were moved.

One of the greatest sights of the Anthracite fields is the Mahanoy Plane in operation. It is visited every year by thousands of sightseers.

For years Stuart Morgan has been the foreman, and Jas. Amour, the assistant foreman, of this great operation. Both of these men come from Frackville. The management of the Plane is under A. J. Farrell, Superintendent of the Shamokin Division, and F. A. Fennelly, Assistant Train Master. Both of these men come from Mahanoy Plane. Mr. Farrell started to work in the transportation department at Mahanoy Plane and was in direct charge of operating the Plane for many years. The first Plane engine house was destroyed by fire, Jan. 29, 1886; and it was not until September of the same year that the new engine house was ready for operation. During the time the Plane was out of operation, due to the fire, the Pennsylvania Railroad Co. built a link down the mountain side from Frackville to Shenandoah, passing through Gilberton and Wiggans, thus giving these towns shorter and more direct communication with the county seat, Pottsville. The first passenger train was run over this road from Shenandoah to Pottsville on Monday, Nov. 22, 1886. About 1895, the Phila. and Reading Railroad built a few hundred feet of track connecting its main line south of Boston Run, or what was known as Bear Run Junction, with the Pennsylvania Road near Boston Run Colliery.

Mahanoy Plane Shops

With the completion of the Mahanoy Plane in 1861, and the building of the Shenandoah link of the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad in 1863, the town of Mahanoy Plane became quite a railroad town. The P. & R. built large shops here, which gave work to hundreds of men; but in 1933 the shops were closed, the work being sent to Tamaqua and Gordon. This was a serious economic blow to Mahanoy Plane.

Stage Coach

D. P. Haupt established a regular stage line in 1870 between Mahanoy Plane and Frackville. For thirty years, he transferred passengers between the two points.

Education

The first school house built in Mahanoy Plane stood on the hillside north of the present school building. The first teacher was Jas Minogue, who later became a member of the Schuylkill County Bar. Lawyer Minogue died just a few years ago. The next school house stood on the north side of Main St., where the Charles Maurer row of houses now stands. This, too, like its predecessor, was a single room building, but large enough to accommodate two teachers. The only furniture in those buildings were home-made benches placed against the walls which served as a back rest. W. W. Wood was the principal of this building.

The growing population demanded a larger building. The one-room building was torn down to make way for a two-story four-room building, which was erected in 1874, at a cost of five thousand dollars. The first principal of this new building was John O'Malley. After teaching here for some years the O'Malley family moved to Scranton, whereupon M. C. Butler, of Cass Twp., was appointed his successor. This new building had not seen many years of service when it was threatened with destruction by mine cave-ins. It was decided by the Board of Education and the land owners to tear the building down and re-build at the western end of town, hence the present school building.

M. C. Butler had a long tenure as principal of the Mahanoy Plane schools. From Mahanoy Plane he was sent to Maizeville to take charge of what was then known as the Central High School. After serving as supervising principal of the Borough for several years, he resigned to accept the principalship of the Cass Twp. High School.

The following have served as principals of the Mahanoy Plane schools since M. C. Butler's time: Edward F. Dolan, Michael J. Shore, Bernard Caufield, James Maurer, John A. Smith, Jos. O'Boyle, Anna Wright.

Other teachers who taught in the Mahanoy Plane schools are: Henry O'Kane, Jas. Flynn, Wm. McLaughlin, Annie Hickey, Katie Olhausen, Mary Fennelly, Maggie Brehony, Mamie Meade, Bertha McCook, Mame O'Connor, Kathleen McCauley, Margaret Miller, Mame Murphy, Agnes Dewey, Nellie Miller, Frank O'Boyle, P. J. Moore, Nellie Toomey, Kate Ryan, B. Ann Ryan, Mary McGrath, Mary Farrell, Annie Carey, Nellie Horan, Alice Hullihan, Mary Wayne, Nellie Carey, Julia Collins, Rose Brehony, Alma Meade, Thos. Wright, Wm. J. Smith, Annie Hennessy, Flo Lytle, Maggie Meade, Sarah Tierney, Julia Farrell, Annie Murphy, Mary J. Horan, M. Ella Lytle, Louise Stahl, Marguerite Cassidy, Rose Delaney, Nellie McLaughlin, Mary O'Boyle, Agatha Wasker.

Methodist Church

Previous to 1868, there had been an English and Welsh Union Sabbath school organized in which both languages were used. It met regularly in a room over the store of Nathaniel Lytle. Services were held in private houses by Rev. John A. Dixon, then stationed at Centralia.

In the spring of 1868, the old school house which stood in the rear of the church building was secured and a Sabbath school was organized under the superintendency of Chas. Hammer of Shamokin. About the same time two local preachers from Gilberton, John Murray and Jacob Pillinger were engaged to preach alternately here. In the summer of 1869, Rev. John A. Borland, of Harrisburg, was appointed to preach as a supply. In March, 1870, the societies of Gilberton and Mahanoy Plane were made a circuit, with Rev. Thomas Harrison pastor. The first class was organized by Rev. Thos. Harrison, May 15, 1870.

The following persons at that time composed the society: Wm. and Harriet Cope, Annie Edwards, Susanna Smith, Harriet Davidson, Mary L. Irish, Tillie Thickens.

Charles Hammer was the first leader of the society, and William Cope, the first class leader and Sunday School Superintendent.

During 1873, a frame building was erected on land belonging to the Phila. and Reading Railroad Co. The cost was about $1,800.

The pastors and their terms of service have been: Rev. John A. Borland, 1869; Rev. Thos. Harrison, 1870-1871; Rev. A. L. Urban, 1872; Rev. J. W. Bradley, 1873-1874; Rev. H. T. Quigg, 1875-1876; Rev. Geo. W. North, 1877; Rev. C. Hudson, 1878; Rev. J. W. Bradley, 1879; Rev. W. W. Wisegarver, 1880-1882; Rev. T. T. Mutchler, 1882-1884; Rev. J. McQuoid, 1884; Rev. R. C. Wood, 1885-1886; Rev. O. E. Stogden, 1887 part of 1888; Rev. W. H. Aspril, part of 1888; Rev. Otho Brant, 1890-1891.

During the pastorate of Rev. Brant the church was dedicated as a Methodist Episcopal Church. Prior to this it was termed a Union Church.

Later ministers were: Rev. Samuel H. Toy, 1892; Rev. Frank B. Fox, 1895-1896; Rev. Henry Preston, 1898-1899; Rev. Albert Clegg, 1903.

Rev. Geo. L. Shaeffer, Sr., a retired minister whose son was stationed at Gilberton, served from 1904 to March, 1906. At the March Conference of 1906, Rev. John H. Danks, of Shenandoah, was appointed as pastor, which pastorate has continued to the present time, a period of twenty-eight years.

During Rev. Danks' pastorate, the church has undergone many improvements. It was raised six feet, a new steam heat plant was installed, new pews were put in, new carpets were laid, the ceiling walls were covered with metallic sheeting. But these are only material things. For twenty-eight years, Rev. Danks has practically traveled twice a week, from Shenandoah to Mahanoy Plane, in all kinds of weather, to minister unto the spiritual wants of his congregation.

Holy Rosary Church

There was no Catholic Church in Mahanoy Plane in the early days. Mass was said in the Wayne home, in other private homes and in the old school house by Rev. Father Sheridan, who rode out from Ashland on his famous saddle horse "Fox."

The first church was begun in 1874 by Rev. Father Jos. Bridgeman, then stationed at Girardville. It was finished by Rev. Father Daniel O'Connor, its first pastor. The church was consecrated by Archbishop Wood in 1879.

Father O'Connor, who was called to Girardville in 1877, was succeeded by Rev. Father Wm. Loughran. Rev. Father John Loughran succeeded Rev. Wm. Loughran Rev. Father Chas. Prendergast, of Heckscherville, was appointed curate to the Rev. Father John Loughran in 1896. Rev. Father McGinn succeeded Rev. Father John Loughran. Rev. Father McCloy served as a curate for a short time under Rev. Father McGinn. Father McGinn was succeeded by Rev Father Jas. A. Hogan in 1897. Father Prendergast continued as curate for a time under Father Hogan, but was afterwards succeeded by Rev. Father Jas. Dooley, of Girardville.

During Father Hogan's pastorate, the congregation had grown to such an extent that the old church of 1874, with its quaint galleries, was no longer able to accommodate the people. Plans were made for a new building. The old Church was moved to the rear of the lot and the beautiful Gothic structure which now adorns Mahanoy Plane was completed in 1904. Father Hogan was transferred to Phila. in 1911. He was succeeded by the present pastor, the Rev. P. J. Fleming.

Father Fleming during his long pastorate at the Holy Rosary Church has worked hard and made many sacrifices for his congregation. He remodeled St. Joseph's Cemetery at Frackville, by enclosing it with a fine stone wall and laying beautiful cement walks. He opened the new Holy Rosary Cemetery at Englewood, near Frackville, built a new Rectory and made many other improvements.

The Rectory Fire

Frank Fotte, of Shenandoah, had established a hotel in the eastern part of Mahanoy Plane, on the north side of Main Street. This hotel was known as the "Tilly Billy" house. Father Fleming denounced the house and its proprietor.

A great indignation meeting was held in front of the "Tilly Billy" house on the evening of June 14, 1926. Thousands of people heard Con. Foley and John J. Moran denounce the Tilly Billy, in stirring addresses. Public opinion was fast crystallizing against Fotte.

At two o'clock on the morning of June 15, 1926, Frank Fotte, Carlo Romalo, Tony Scatton, and Tony Spallone drove to the Rectory of the Holy Rosary Church during a heavy rain storm. Fotte and Romalo saturated the Rectory with gasoline, Spallone stayed in the car, while Scatton stood on the sidewalk. Fotte hurled the lighted cotton waste against the gasoline soaked wall and in a few minutes the Rectory was an inferno, from which Father Fleming and the other members of the household barely escaped. After firing the Rectory the conspirators dashed for their car, but the new car stalled; then they attempted to push it but of no avail. The blaze was now becoming larger and time more precious, and as a last resort to escape detection one of the gang attempted to wrench the license plates from the car but this too failed, so they had to make their getaway on foot leaving behind them their car.

In the pockets of this car were found cards advertising Frank Fotte's restaurant in Shenandoah, a bill from Thos. A. Bevan, plumber, of Mahanoy Plane, addressed to Fotte and charging him with work

done for the "Tilly Billy" Hotel; a blackjack, a revolver and a box of cartridges.

Dr. L. F. Donaghue, of Mahanoy Plane, visited Chief Daniel T. McKelvey of Hazleton and engaged him to help bring the criminals to justice. So effective was Chief McKelvey's work that his own home was dynamited and left in ruins. Detective Louis D. Buono, of Schuylkill County and his assistant, Frank Post, did wonderful work on this case. It was Buono, who after a long chase covering nearly all the large cities of the East, located Romalo in Baltimore and brought him back to serve a prison term in Schuylkill County.

Across the street from the Rectory lived Mr. and Mrs. Wm. McCarthy, who were eye-witnesses of the crime and the first to spread the alarm which probably saved Father Fleming and the other members of the household from being burned to death. The perpetrators of the crime were sentenced to serve from eight to sixteen years in the Schuylkill County Prison.

The Holy Rosary Parish has given the following men to the priesthood: Fathers Daggett, Muldowney, Mahon, Hickey, McConnon, Gaughan, McCook, Munley, Leary, Leahy, Doolin, and Murphy. Brother Cyprian, Philip Kerrigan, is a member of the Xaverian Brothers. Brother Gerard, Wm. Keating, is a member of the Order of The Holy Ghost.

Mahanoy Plane in the World War

The following from Mahanoy Plane served in the World War: Geo. Bolinsky, Edw. Bolinsky, Anthony Bolinsky, Peter Brehony, Myles Brennan, Wm. J. Canavan, Peter Cartishon, Garret Collins, Geo. M. Cook, John Connors, Thos. Crosby, Jos. Curry, Jos. Dalton, John Delaney, Leo Flannery, Patrick Flannery, Jas. Gormley, S. A. T. C., Patrick Hansbury, Geo. Hurick, Clarence Jones, Timothy Kane, Wasye Kalymum, Michael Katiskey, John Kohe, Alex Kumire, Jos. Lakavajeh, Patrick Loftus, Jos. Loftus, Roy Loftus, Peter Mallick, S. A. T. C., Thos. Matthews, Bernard Matthews, Michael Matika, Harry Miller, Jos. Miller, John Miller, Chas. Morgan, Thos. Mullahey, S. A. T. C., Wm. McCabe, Thos. McCann, John McCann, Jas. McCann, Wm. McLaughlin, Michael O'Boyle, Nicholas Plaxa, Anthony Polaskey, John Reynolds, Michael Richardson, Frank Richardson, John Ringo, John Sabolick, Jonas Smith, Geo. Smith, Lawrence Smith, Anthony Socker, Max Stoppen, Ralph J. Steevic, Jas. Sullivan, Ray Thomas, Wm. Walsh, Wojeich Ziebo, Albert Zukas.

Thos. F. Crosby, Jr., Pvt., Camp Edgewood, Md. Died Oct. 9, 1918; Jos. Lakavajeh, Pvt., Co. "E", 1 Engrs., A. E. F., France, was wounded; John McCann, Pvt., Co. "B", 4 MG. BN., A. E. F., France, was Cited; Thos. McCann, Corp., Bty. F. A., was awarded Croix de Guerre, A. E. F., France, and Jas. Sullivan, Pvt. 1 cl., Co. "L", 7 Inf., A. E. F., France, was cited.

American Hose Company No. 2

In 1887, the American Hose Company No. 2 was organized in Mahanoy Plane with the following officers: James Maurer, President; Thomas Crosby, Vice Pres.; Charles Burchill, Treas.; Dennis Sheehan, Rec. Secy.; John Sullivan, Fin. Secy.; Philip Haggerty, Foreman.

This company has weathered many a storm but today it is in fine condition. It has a beautiful Hose House and a first class La France Fire Truck. The present officers of the American Hose Company are: Prof. C. A. Burke, President; Thos. Smith, Vice Pres.; Robert Heckman, Fin. Secy.; Earl Jones, Rec. Secy.; Dr. James Flannery, Treas.; Joseph

Flynn, Fire Chief; James Gormley, Chief Engr.; James Tierney, Joseph Curry, Owen Cusick, Trustees.

Baseball

One of the best baseball teams that ever represented Mahanoy Plane was the Ivy Leaf Baseball Team. It was composed of the following members: Wm. Miller, c; John Sheehan, c-1b; Frank Sheehan, c; Jos. Whalen, p-Manager; Dominic Joyce, 1b; Andrew Rice, 2b; Rev. Wm. F. Gaughan, 3b; Michael Hobin, ss; Brain Gormley, ss; Richard Donnelly, rf; Thomas M. Cook, cf; Michael Cusick, lf.

Football

In 1900 Dr. L. F. Donaghue and M. J. Shore organized and coached the first football team that ever represented Mahanoy Plane. It was composed of the following players: Thos. McGren, c; John Dewey, rg; Dan Reardon, lg; M. J. Shore, lt; Edw. Harris, rt; Jas. Kilcur, re; John A. Smith, le; Wm. Wilson, qb; Chas. Frymire, lhb; Michael Cusick, rhb; George Cobley, fb. Substitutes—John Brennan, John McCann, Richard Quigley, Michael Butler, John Leary.

Basketball

Mahanoy Plane Basketball team was organized in 1903 and played through the seasons of 1904, 1905, and 1906. The team met such opponents as the North Philadelphia Team, The Celtics of New York, and the Crescent A. C. of Phila. The team was composed of the following players and officials: John Smith, Captain, Forward; Michael J. Cusick, Forward; John J. Sheehan, Centre; Robert L. Morgan, Guard; John J. McCann, Guard; Thos. M. O'Connor, Guard; Jos. M. Lytle, Manager; Jos. L. Whalen, Time Keeper.

Labor Organizations

The first Local of the U. M. W. A. in the Borough was No. 1542. Its officers were: John Hanbury, Pres.; John Motsic, Vice Pres.; Owen McConnon, Rec. Secy.; John Andzas, Fin. Secy.; John Petrusky, Treas.

John Hansbury, Daniel Leary and several other men used their own money to bring John Fahey, an International organizer, for the U. M. W. A. into this district.



STEPHEN GIRARD

The Founder of Girardville and From Whom the Town Gets Its Name



H. S. RAUSCH

Supervising Principal of the Girardville Public Schools.



W. J. ROBERTS

Author of the General Historical Sketch of Girardville and also director of History in the Girardville High School.

Girardville Named For Stephen Girard

(From "Pottsville Republican"-"Morning Paper," April 17-May 6, 1934)

The collection and preparation of the History of Girardville was entirely under the direction of W. J. Roberts, the Principal of the Girardville High School. It was a project of the Democracy Class of the High School. Mr. Roberts wishes to acknowledge the helpfulness of the brief survey of the town's progress written by Thos. Kelshaw, Sr., in 1932, as well as the co-operation of the Girard Estate, the Reading Co., the students of the history class of the Girardville High School and the people of Girardville, who have contributed much to the success with which this work may be greeted.

The history committee is composed of the following: John Amour, Dorothy Arnold, Irene Beneshunas, Quentin Carduff, Phillip Dangelo, Ruth Davies, Thelma Dolphin, Nellie Dresher, Joseph Drulis, Hannah Engel, Anna Eye, Ellen Eye, Lincoln Faust, William Finn, Leo Flynn, Joseph Greblick, Hilma Heim.

Doris Hill, Lois Kelshaw, Thomas Kelshaw, Jennie Kess, Lester Ketner, Jack MacNeill, James Malarkey, Thomas Martin, Lillian Pryce, Eleanor Rakowsky, Edan Reb, Frederick Spoo, Eleanor Tuscanes, Edward Velevis. Verda Weyman, Margaret William, Sarah Wilson.

Girardville is the place designated by the late Stephen Girard as the site of a town. Stephen Girard, merchant, mariner and public benefactor, was the original owner of the site upon which the town was created. The name of the town, Girardville, was selected as a tribute to this great citizen.

The town is admirably located at the confluence of the Shenandoah and Mahanoy Valleys in the heart of the rich coal fields of Schuylkill County. It is situated six miles from Shenandoah, ten miles from Mahanoy City, three miles from Ashland, eighteen miles from Pottsville, the county seat, and 108 miles from the City of Philadelphia. Its altitude is one thousand feet by the measurement of the tide. Its area is 320 acres; inhabited, according to the 1930 census, by 4,891 people.

The years have been kind to it in its development. It takes its place cheerfully among the thriving settlements of the county. It boasts of one bank, two Building and Loan Associations, two school systems, public and parochial, with a total enrollment of 1,442 pupils, six churches with memberships totaling 6,293 people. (The church membership exceeds the town's population due to the fact that the churches reach out to administer to the spiritual needs of the people in the surrounding hamlets of Connerton, Rappahannock, Big Mine

Run, Raven Run, Preston Hill and Homesville). Its transportation facilities are ample, the town being served by two railroads, the Reading Lines and the Lehigh Valley Railroad, as well as one transportation company conducting a local motor coach service, the Schuylkill Transportation Co. The population finds its recreation in the enjoyment of entertainments afforded by one theatre, The Girard Theatre, one ball park and one playground. Three able fire companies, The Girard, The West End and The Rangers, stand ready to protect that which has been developed over the period of existence.

Professionally the town is blest very richly with the services of eight members of the clergy, six members of the medical profession, three laywers, five dentists, two chiropodists, four pharmacists, and forty-two teachers, in public and parochial schools.

Land Purchased By Girard

The land upon which the town is located was purchased in 1830 from the old Bank of the United States by Stephen Girard. This land is a parcel of vast holdings secured by the same purchase located in this county. Clear titles for the land were secured by 1831. The lands secured by these titles are described in Hazard's Register of Penna., as —"Wild, Mountainous, Extremely Romantic, and Picturesque!"

Although Mr. Girard purchased these lands in Schuylkill County in 1830, he was confronted with many adverse claims. However, upon the securing of the title he felt secure to gather information in regard to this purchase. Accordingly, he sent his close friend, William J. Duane (later an executor of his will) to gather "definite information to the number of settlers, their holdings and locations, as well as a report of the value of the coal lands and timber tracts." During this same year, Mr. Duane supervised a survey of the land which resulted in the first map of Girard Lands, showing land lines, streams, coal outcrops and woodlands. Associated with Duane in this venture were John Thomson, Enoch Lewis, Thos. Baird and Chas. Lyon Schlatter, all engineers.

The first efforts of Mr. Girard in relation to this vast region were not those of settlement but rather efforts of development. Shortly after the creation of the map showing the extent of his holdings a railroad was planned as an agency of improvement. It is interesting to note that this project was decided upon late in 1830, the very same year that the first steam locomotive was operated successfully between Liverpool and Manchester, the location of the first important railway in the world. Mr. Girard was the chief promoter of the railroad and in May, 1831, he subscribed to $100,000 worth of stock. This subscription inspired a confidence in others and the full amount of the subscriptions was quickly realized. Mr. Girard became a member of the board of directors while Dr. John Y. Clarke, the husband of his niece, Henrietta, was made chairman of the board. Moncure Robinson was engaged as engineer. The railroad was given the name of "The Pottsville & Danville Railroad."

The real import of the rail project to the town of Girardville is seen in the agreement of Robinson and Girard. It was agreed that the first part of the railroad construction would be the route transversing Girard's holdings so that

a town and grist mills could be located. In accordance with this agreement the site of the town was selected in 1831 and the real project was commenced. The development of the site was very rapid, for on Mr. Duane's second trip to this region he reported much progress in the building of mills. (It is generally conceded that these mills were located along the Mahanoy Creek between Line St., Girardville, and the west end of Mahanoy Plane). Thus, the real establishment of Girardville began here.

Early Railroads

Disgressing a moment in our study of Girardville your attention is called to the construction of the railroad of this period. It was very much unlike the railroads of today, consisting of two lines of stone posts fixed in the earth in a vertical position at proper distances. To the top of these posts were bolted wooden stringers which formed the track along which the flanged wheel of the car rolled. The wood was protected from wear by ribbons, or strips, of iron, two inches wide, one-half inch thick, eighteen feet long and cut on the ends at an angle of forty-five degrees, which were spiked on the upper surface of the stringers.

Unfortunately for the railroad project, Girard died on Dec. 26, 1831, following an attack of influenza and he was buried in the burial ground of the Holy Trinity Roman Catholic Church, Sixth and Spruce Sts., Phila. In 1851, his remains were transferred to a marble sarcophagus in the vestibule of Girard College.

The death of the founder had no effect on the plans for his holdings as his will completely provided for the development of his properties. In 1832, under the direction of Wm. Boyd, who had been appointed supervisor of the land in 1831, the first two buildings of the town were erected, a hotel and a real estate office. These buildings were located at what is now the corner of Second and Mahanoy Ave., the ground now controlled by the parish of St. Vincent de Paul Lithuanian Church. A residence for the land agent was also started. This latter residence when completed was called the mansion and is now occupied by the present land agent, Thos. Kelshaw, Sr.

Railroad Completed in 1835

In 1835, the railroad was completed as far as Girardville. This town marked the terminus of the railway due to the death of the orginator of the project, Stephen Girard. Although the road was never fully completed the road-bed was graded to within thirteen miles of Sunbury.

No marked developments or changes are noted in the next few years. The growth of the town was very slow. However, an impetus was given to the community when the timber lands were leased by John Hower. He also leased the hotel, The Girard House. Mr. Hower was the oldest of the few inhabitants of the town. He devoted himself to the development of the interests of this community. It was in this same year that the first school made its appearance. It was located on East Mahanoy Ave. and was in charge of Miss Sarah Stanton, later Mrs. Horey, of Rochelle, N. Y.

In 1850 P. W. Sheafer, an engineer residing in Pottsville, was en-

gaged by the City of Phila., to make surveys and prepare a map of the Girard Estate Lands. He shows on this map a plan of a village known as Foulketown, which extends on the lands of Foulke and Preston westward from Line Street to the present west line of the borough. This area was included in the town plot upon the incorporation of the borough.

The main street in Foulketown was known as Parker St. and extended eastward to Line St., where it joined Girard Ave. Both these streets now constitute Main St. This map of 1850 also refers to Second St. as Phila. Ave.

First Colliery

In 1853 the first colliery was established. This operation was known as the West End of Big Mine Run. This colliery became one of the many that constituted the Bast Colliery many years later. The operators of this early mining industry were Gideon Bast and Pearson. This new project proved a new source of livelihood as well as a great attraction to more settlers.

It is generally agreed that in this period the religious life of the people was administered to in a church situated in the neighborhood of the site of the present railroad station for the Reading Lines. The services were those of a people joining together as one for the worship of God in a simple service. There were no thoughts given to sectarian or denominational beliefs.

Great interest seems to have prevailed in the development of mining at this time for in 1858 a second operation known as The East End of Big Mine Run was started by Emanuel Bast and Jacob Steinhelbert. This colliery operated under its original name until 1872, when it, like its predecessor, became a part of the Bast Colliery. Scarcely a year elapsed until a third mine operation began. The development was known as Preston No. 1 (another part of The Bast Colliery of today.) The operation was in the hands of Buckley and Moodie. One will discover in later years that the ownership of this colliery changed frequently.

Approximately, it was at this time that a religious development was experienced by the community. The first church of the town was transferred to the west end of town, to that region referred to in the P. W. Sheafer Map of 1850, as Foulketown. This church, the same as the log church, was a union affair without thought of denominational differences.

Jas. J. Connors, in 1861, contributed another coal mining development that further enlarged the source of livelihood for the residents of the community. The colliery created in this year took the name of the founder, and was called Connors Colliery. This colliery constitutes a part of the operation known as The Hammond Colliery. Mr. Connors, at this time, resided in the Kelshaw Mansion, and he operated the colliery until 1868. The population of Girardville had increased to one hundred inhabitants by these early developments.

The year 1862 sponsored the resumption of railroad activities in this vicinity. The Danville and Pottsville Railroad, instigated by Girard, was now superseded by the Mahanoy and Broad Mountain Railroad, now called The Reading Lines. This episode in railroad history was closely allied with the origin of Connors Colliery, for the first car of coal shipped from the Colliery was over

this road. The coal was a gift to the Mayor of the City of Philadelphia.

Civil War Times

The great American tragedy was felt in this hamlet at this time. The call of President Lincoln to assist the cause of the north was answered by a creditable representation of citizens. In this struggle fate directed that the name of Girardville was to gain wide acclaim by the heroic actions of a volunteer, P. H. Monaghan. For heroic action in the line of duty, this youth of 20 years was decorated by General Meade at Petersburg, Va. The decoration was a medal of honor granted by Congress for gallantry in action. He was one of two persons from Schuylkill County to be so honored.

Religious life of the community received its first substantial gain this year. A group of men, Wm. Yoe, Henry Townsend, Thos. Marsh, Wm. F. Horswood, Henry Croaks. Arthur Mills, Jos. Boughrey, John Smith and Wm. Gwyther selected and purchased, in trust, the plot for the Primitive Methodist Church. The church was, as yet, unincorporated. The deed of the church is dated Dec. 21, 1863. A frame church building was immediately constructed. Rev. C. Spurr was the pastor serving the congregation.

1863 found mining development still increasing. Preston No. 2 was brought into existence at this time. The operators of this project were Buckley and Moodie. They retired from ownership in the year 1864.

The Protestant churches have been the only institutions established at this early date. However, it is agreed that services for the people of Roman Catholic faith were conducted during these years. It is known that during this early history, prior to 1870, the meetings of Roman Catholics were held in the Coughlan residence on East Mahanoy Ave. Father Sherdan of the Ashland Parish served the congregation as their pastor. These services were conducted for the people of Girardville, Lost Creek and Mahanoy Plane. Father Sherdan traversed the distance between Girardville and Ashland by horseback. A frame chapel, built on East Mahanoy Ave. in the late '60's was the outgrowth of these meetings.

In 1864, the ownership of Preston No. 2 Colliery was secured by The Preston Improvement Co., and they assumed control. During the course of development by Preston No. 2 Colliery, many changes were experienced by Preston No. 1 Colliery. This colliery was purchased in 1864 by the Preston Improvement Company at the same time they purchased Preston No. 2 Colliery. The colliery again changed hands in 1867, when it was purchased by Kendricks Davey and Son. In 1868 the control of the operation was gained by Agard Moodie and Co.

Another religious development of the late '60's took place when Hon. Jay Cooke erected a church building known as The Preston Mission. It was built in 1867. It was transferred to the M. E. Congregation in 1869.

The conveniences of transportation to the town were further provided by the advent of The Lehigh Railroad in the year 1866. This railroad afforded both passenger and freight facilities to and from the town and proved a great agency in making this rising town attractive for settlement.

The year 1869 provided Girardville with its first taste of "big business." It was at this time that several mine operations that existed as individual enterprises were secured by Agard Moodie and Co. The operations combined by the sales of this period were Preston No. 1 and Preston No. 2, and The Connors Colliery. The first two provided the initial step in the creation of The Bast Colliery.

1869 also sponsored a change in the personnel of the Girard Estate force. E. C. Wagner was appointed assistant superintendent and came to Girardville March 1st of that year. Upon his arrival in the town he found the Girard House still occupied by John Hower. The original real estate office was now a barn. Wm. Hower, a brother to John, was making the Girard Mansion his residence, he having rented it from J. J. Connors, former coal operator. All the buildings needed improvement, which he immediately proceeded to have made.

Started To Lay Out Town

The entrance of E. C. Wagner into the history of this town has a very profound effect on the growth. The work of laying out the streets and the plotting of building lots were the tasks that confronted him. He devoted himself with a marked perseverance and his efforts were amply rewarded.

The work of development was carried forward when the supervisor of Butler Township began the cutting out and grading of streets, the plotting of lots, the sale of land and building of bridges across Mahanoy Creek. These improvements plus the wonderful development in the mining industry were responsible for a remarkable steady growth of population.

While these improvements were taking place, two other events of historical value occurred. In this same year the P. M. Church was granted its charter and The Preston Mission, built by Hon. Jay Cooke, was transferred to the ownership of the M. E. Congregation.

The population in 1870 had increased to 3000 people. This group realizing the need of proper community government took the first steps in securing it when they applied for articles of incorporation. Their charter was granted June 4, 1872.

It is during this year that we recognize another example of the people in fraternizing. In this year, the "Independent Order of Odd Fellows" made its appearance. It was composed of 103 members. It is still existant today.

It is in this year, also, that the Roman Catholic Church begins its history as a parish. Aug. 10, 1870, the Rev. Jos. Bridgman was appointed pastor of St. Joseph's Church. With the creation of the new parish, the site of the church was also changed, moving the old frame church of E. Mahanoy Avenue to the rear of the present church location. The Parish, at this time, administered to the religious needs of the people of Lost Creek and Mahanoy Plane, in addition to the people of Girardville. The membership consisted of approximately 8,000 people.

Shortly after the incorporation of the town, the first election was held at the home of Louis Blass. The following citizens were selected to guide the destinies of the offices of government for the first time: John Swansborough, Chief Burgess; Jas. Brennan, Louis Wehl, Wm. Daly, Thos. Rodgers and John Griffiths, Councilmen; and Thos. Lewis, Clerk. The first work of the officers was the erection of a jail and a council room.

Approximately at the time of incorporation the colliery known as West Big Mine Run changed ownership. The transfer was consummated between Gideon Bast and Taylor, Lindsay and Co. Mr. Bast retired from active operation in the coal fields in 1871.

1872 introduced a variety of developments in the town. The changes concerned themselves with the military, industrial and religious phases of the lives of the people of the town. The changes taking place in this year had a tremendous effect upon the history and progress of the town.

The opening event of this year was the burning of the Primitive Methodist Church. The small frame chapel that served the congregation was completely destroyed by fire in the month of January. The fire was attributed to an overheated stove. However, this hardship was bravely accepted by the loyal band that constituted the church membership, and they began to establish plans for a bigger and better church at once. In the space of one year, they had a new brick structure under roof and the following year services were conducted in the new church home.

The P. & R. C. & I. Co. entered the history of the town in this year. Preston No. 1 and Preston No. 2 were purchased by this company. The purchase of the former colliery was made from Agard Moodie and Co., and the latter colliery was purchased from Wm. Kendrick, who had secured ownership of this colliery in 1871.

Education also took a marked advance when a new school building, known as the "Old White School", was erected. The building was used during this year and administered to the needs of the children of the community under the direction of Miss Mary McGurl.

The patriotism of the community manifested itself in 1872 when, one month after the incorporation of the town, the Girardville Light Infantry, Company I, 7th Regiment, N. G. of P., was organized and mustered in to five years' service with Capt. P. H. Monaghan as leader.

In 1872, the Girard Estate presented a plot of ground to the congregation of the Methodist Episcopal Church for the purpose of erecting a new church home. The building was erected in 1874 and with many improvements, constitutes the present building, standing at the corner of Line and Main Sts. The church was built during the pastorate of Rev. D. M. Gordan.

May 17th, of this year introduced a new political body into the town's governmental organization—the first Board of Education. It consisted of the following persons: Thos. Connors, E. C. Wagner, Henry Shofstall, Geo. Rogers, Patrick Folliard and Ephraim Golden. Thos. Connors was elected president, Henry Shofstall secretary and E. C. Wagner, treasurer. Although the town possessed two schools prior to this time, this was the first attempt at organization of Board of Control.

It was in 1873 that the town of Girardville was included in the mission field of the Baptist Ministry of St. Clair. The first Sunday School of the Baptist Church was organized, although it did not hold its first meeting until July 12, 1875, in the old Second Street School building. There were 11 teachers and 36 scholars. Rev. Wm. Warlow was the pastor in charge.

At this same time, the Lutheran congregation of the town established an independent meeting schedule. They conducted their meet-

ings with the Baptists in the Second street school house.

"The Girardville Herald," the town's first newspaper was issued this year. The paper was edited by Smith and Stevens. It was not popular with the town folks, and after a meagre existence of two years, was discontinued. One of the important bits of news that it carried was the announcement of the organization of the first financial institution in this town. This institution was a saving fund association, known as the Girardville Mammoth Saving Fund.

Possibly the most popular colliery of the community was established as the contribution of the next year 1874. This colliery was an operation of the P. & R. C. & I. Co. This was not the Hammond Colliery of today but merely the nucleus of the present organization. A later combination of collieries is responsible for the present form of this industry.

Educational Growth

The growth of education in the community occupied the center of the stage in 1875. The development of the educational system of the town seems to have been a major issue, for in this year a new two-story building was erected to relieve the over-crowded condition of the schools. This was the first school building erected under the supervision of the newly created Board of Education and the second building built by public money over a span of four years. The building was two stories in height but merely contained two classrooms. It was erected on the site of the present school building used for high school work. Col. P. H. Monaghan was the teacher in charge. (According to information handed to the committee on historical research Col. Monaghan was promoted to the rank of Colonel for Valor on the field of battle during the Civil War.)

The second military development of the town was experienced July 21, 1876, when The Girardville Greys, a National Guard of Penna., was organized with a muster of sixty rank and file, led by Captain T. F. Hoffman. This organization formed a source of supply for the ranks of the U. S. Army during the Spanish-American War.

About 1876, "the old Second St." school building was erected. It consisted of four rooms, three of which were used for the conduct of classes; the other was used for storage of supplies. This building is still in use by the school district and is now recognized as Building No. 2 of the Girardville School District, or better known as the "Grammar School." In this building one room was used for high school work. The room now used by Miss Martha Gwyther for departmental work in the eighth grade was then used for high school work. The following teachers were in charge: Miss M. Smith, Miss Emma Smith, Miss Moister, Miss Margaret T. Smith, Miss Anne McAndrew, Miss Ella Higgens and Miss Mame Monaghan.

Church Buys Plot

Nov. 16, 1878, the Baptist Congregation purchased the plot of land for the erection of a church building. The cost of the land was $25, and the sellers were the trustees of the Girard Estate. This was the beginning step for the creation of a church home that has stood through the ages of the town's history and is still used by this congregation. The building of the church took place over a span of two years, as records show the date of its dedication being in the year 1880.

"Big Business" was intensified in this year. It was at this time that Preston No. 1, Preston No. 2, East End of Big Mine Run and West End of Big Mine Run were consolidated as one operation known as The Bast Colliery. The operations were secured by the P. & R. C. & I. Co. This is the present colliery known by the name "Bast Colliery."

Another newspaper, "The Gazette," made its debut in 1877. It was edited and published by a partnership of Hoffman and Weightman. The paper was very successful but for some unknown reason was sold August, 1879, to Smith and Arnold. It is remembered that Mr. Arnold is the former part owner of "The Herald." The paper was changed to a daily and was continued successfully for a few years and then discontinued.

I880 continued the religious growth of this town. In this year the Baptist Church was dedicated. From 1878 until 1880, the congregation comprising this church were devotedly dedicated to the task of building for posterity. Their efforts were rewarded and the church was dedicated this year. The church was erected at a cost of $2000 under the direction of Price & Hall. It was further improved by the addition of a cabinet organ and appropriate interior fixtures at an added cost of $400. The members of the Baptist Congregation still thrill over the achievement of this project for provision was made for the liquidation of the entire debt of the new church ($2400) during the service of dedication.

Another congregation passed another milestone on its way to the creation of its present condition when, in this year, the Lutherans of town were provided with their first resident minister. The first assignment to the pulpit of the Lutheran Church was Rev. W. H. Geiger, who filled this charge until 1882. In this year, the Girard Estate donated a plot of ground for the erection of a church building. The church was completed in 1881 and constitutes, without improvements, the present church edifice.

Hose Co. Organized

The first thought of the towns people to an organized system of protection of property against the destruction of fire occurred in 1882. This concern for the safety of property resulted in the organization of the Girard Hose Company. The charter for this organization was filed on Jan. 16, 1882, and was received Jan. 17, 1882. The charter members of the organization were: E. C. Wagner, Thos. Lafferty, Wm. J. Yeo, C. G. Hower, George H. Becker, Wm. Short, John Wandlass, John Haley, Wm. C. Haeussler, Recorder. This company is still in existence and is the most active of all the organizations comprising the fire department.

Another charter was received in the town in this year when the Lutheran congregation made successful application to have a charter granted for their church. The next year, another memorable event in their church life took place when they conducted the confirmation of membership.

Mine Changes

"Big Business" continued in the realm of mining during the next few years, and in 1887 "The Hammond Colliery" was organized by the P. & R. C. & I. Co. The collieries comprising this new operation were the Hammond and Connors. It is to be remembered that the Bast Colliery, secured by the same company, resulted from a combination of individual holdings. The depend-

ency on one company on mining is further realized by the fact that the two important collieries forming the back-bone of support for the families of the town were both controlled by mergers conducted by the P. & R. C. & I. Co. This not only shows a local condition but a general condition in business throughout the country, that of gaining control of many similar businesses by one organization.

Pioneer Corps Formed

Nov. 16, 1889, a meeting of the young men of the parish of St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church resulted in the organization of the St. Joseph's T. A. B. Pioneer Corps. About 35 men subscribed to membership and were pledged by Father McCullough.

The first officers were: Anthony Gaughan, Pres.; Thos. McAndrew, Secy.; and John J. Burke, Treas. Their drill practices were under the direction of Col. P. H. Monaghan.

The year 1890 afforded the people with the town's first theatre. It was in this year The Girard Opera House, now the Girard Theatre, came into existence. It was sponsored by a corporation for the purpose of accommodating shows and stage presentations for the townspeople. The shows conducted in this theatre were furnished by traveling stock companies. One of the chief claims of this theatre to fame is the claim of entertaining as a member of the cast of one of the stock companies, none other than the renowned Marie Dressler. According to people who witnessed the show this actress appeared in the show "Faust Up To Date!" which was among the early attractions of this theatre. It is generally agreed, however, that the first show presented in this theatre was Little's "The World."

Bank Was Organized

It was during this same year that Girardville was given its first banking institution. A meeting of interested citizens was held in the office of the Girard Estate, with E. C. Wagner acting as chairman. It was decided at this meeting to organize a bank and to solicit subscribers to the support of this project. E. C. Wagner, Henry Babs, G. W. Barnhardt, W. J. Yeo and Peter Griffiths were appointed to conduct the solicitations. Albert Bordy and C. Kaier were added to this committee later. By July, 1890 the shares of stock were subscribed. The entire capital of $40,000 was furnished by the subscription of 38 people. The bank began its operation in October, 1890, in the Haas Bldg. It was called the First National Bank of Girardville, Pa. E. C. Wagner was the first President; C. Kaier, Vice-Pres.; and J. S. Babs, the first cashier. The following people served as the original board of directors: E. C. Wagner, John H. Haas, C. G. Barnhardt, D. P. Brown, Albert Bordy, C. Kaier, S. B. Brady, W. J. Yeo and Dr. J. C. Biddle.

Two newspapers were offered to the public during this period, "The Preston Times", established by Albert Arnold; and "The Item", edited by Harry Becker. Both were short-lived. However, one real contribution to the field of journalism was made possible through the operation of "The Item". Bart Haley, late editorial writer of the Phila. Record, began his career on this paper. He can be remembered for his famous and much copied editorial, "There are no Chariots".

These two newspapers were followed by the town's most substan-

tial newspaper. This paper was titled "The Leader." It was produced by Mr. Bracey. This sheet proved to be very popular and existed for twenty-three years. It was discontinued in 1916.

The next important development of the town happened in 1895. In this year the Baptist Church provided their minister and the succeeding ministers with a parsonage. The work for this building was contributed by the members of the congregation. The building was constructed during the pastorate of Rev. Blackman. The building is still standing and is still in use.

New High School Erected

Education continued its progress in 1896. In this year a long felt need of the community was satisfied by the erection of a modern high school building. This building, though it is now antiquated, is still used for high school work. The building was a two-and-one-half story building, constructed of brown stone and brick. It contains 8 large class rooms. The architect for the building was P. Rudrauff. The Board of Education responsible for this addition to the town's progress was: A. Kitto, Pres.; T. L. Evans, Secy.; T. Pedlow, Treas.; E. C. Wagner, Dr. W. L. C. Forrestor, P. C. Foy, P. Portner, R. Green and John H. Haley.

Another new building for serving the public was constructed in this year. This building was erected by the congregation of the Reformed Church. The building was located on Ogden St., and later, upon the disbandment of the congregation, was sold to the congregation of the Episcopal Church. Rev. Bowers, Frackville, served the congregation of the Reformed Church during its early existence.

Spanish-American War Period

Patriotism of the townpeople was again displayed by the response to the need of our country in its call for help during the trouble with Spain, in 1898.

Approximately 75 young men from this town marched in response to the call of the colors. Though the casualties of this war were few, Girardville suffered the loss of one member of its contingent, when John Higgins died from the effects of Typhoid Fever in the Medico-Chi Hospital. Though this was the only fatality, Michael Gaygon was compelled to submit to an operation for the amputation of one of his limbs, the injury being the result of active service.

In 1900, the Reformed Church sold its church property to the Episcopal Church. The history of this church is almost a duplicate of their predecessor, The Reformed—"a few struggling years of existence then oblivion."

In 1902, the Primitive Methodist Church, added a pipe organ to its church properties. This organ was the first installed in a Protestant church in this town.

The Lithuanian people in 1904 organized themselves into a parish. Rev. A. M. Milukas, Shenandoah, directed the organization. Masses were held in the Girard Theatre every Sunday while a store room on East Main St., served as their meeting place during the week.

At the time that the Lithuanian people were banding themselves into a congregation, many of the town folk felt the need of more fraternal organizations. Accordingly the Order of Independent Americans was established. Approximately 200 men of this town connected themselves with this fraternal group. Their charter was granted, April 10, 1905.

The following year the most outstanding step in the early efforts of the Lithuanian people to organize a church took place. A group of parishioners, prominent among them being Frank Shimulaitis, Sylvester Bielanskas, Walter Marcincavage, John Greblick, and Mr. Chapley, purchased the "Armory Hall" from the Girard Estate. The purchase price was $8,000. It was a low wooden structure with several rooms on the upper floor and a large basement hall. The basement served as the auditorium for masses. This hall, prior to its purchase, was used by the athletes for their participations in indoor sports.

Nov. 1, 1907, the Lithuanian Church received the blessing of the Archbishop of the Phila. Diocese and given the name of St. Vincent De Paul.

Further interest in financial development was manifested in 1908 when Jos. C. Brecker, T. V. Dougherty, P. J. McLane, P. B. McCormick, Henry Leonhardt, Thos. A. Lynch, A. J. Farrell, Richard Purnell, Thos. Reese, John Petraytis and Jacob Portz organized The Industrial Building and Loan Association. The association had 46 shareholders at the time of its opening.

The beautification of the town through the improvement of the streets was begun in 1909. In this year the first improved highway was constructed of brick. This was merely the beginning of an earnest effort to modernize the roads for the alarming increase of "Horseless carriages" that were making their appearance. The town's total mileage of improved streets, today, is two and one-half miles.

Rangers Fire Co. Chartered

Greater protection of property against the ravages of fire was provided in 1911. On March 2, of that year, The Rangers Fire Co. was founded. Approximately two months later it was chartered by the state. Their first quarters were located in the Griffiths Building. These quarters contained their first piece of equipment which was a hose carriage purchased by the Borough Council from the West End Fire Co., of Pottsville.

Nov. 19, 1914, the town suffered its first loss by fire. The fire originated in the basement of the Kilker property on the corner of William and Main Streets. The building was occupied by John Kalkis, who conducted a saloon on the premises. The spread of the fire was very rapid. Discovery of the fire was made shortly after midnight and before sunrise had rendered 17 families homeless and destroyed all the properties, with the exception of four, in the block. It was necessary to call aid from the fire departments of Mahanoy City, Shenandoah, Ashland, Frackville, Gilberton and Wm. Penn before the fire could be successfully controlled. However, this disastrous incident was followed by a great building project.

New Industry In Town

During this same year the town was given its first industry in addition to the coal operations. It was in this year Charles H. Heine erected the factory which is now known as The Girardville Knitting Mills. This addition to the town's industry provided employment in a new field for female labor of the town. At the beginning of its operation 36 girls were given employment. This industry has had a very successful and constant growth. It employs approximately 75 people, today.

Confidence in the future of the town was displayed in the erection of a beautiful new banking home for the activities of the First National Bank at the corner of Main and William Streets. It was modern in all departments. Some of the outstanding improvements realized in the new building were a vault with a burglar-alarm system attached, an electric clock and a new and efficient bookkeeping system. The building was occupied in Oct. 1916. It is still the home of this institution.

Approximately, at the time, Miss Elizabeth Brown introduced a new organization to the town. This organization was called "The Red Cross." She was very successful in her initial efforts, enrolling 100 people. It was not until the next two years, however, that the real benefit of this organization was realized.

1917 boasts of the organization of the third Fire Company of the town. The company was chartered as the West End Hose Co., of Girardville. The first officers of this company were: Joseph Halbe, Pres.; John Marquardt, Secy.; and M. J. Walsh, Treas. Wm. Halbe, John Connors, and Thos. L. Coon served as trustees. They purchased their first hose carriage in this year at Port Carbon, for $75.

Fire again proved itself a devastating agent to the town, Valentine's Day, 1917, when fire was discovered in the home of Sol Kleckner, located on the north side of Main St., between Line Street and William St. It was an extremely cold day, accompanied by a very strong gale. Before the firemen could be warned of the fire, it had gained a considerable start on its way of destruction. Every conceivable hindrance was experienced by the firemen in fighting this blaze. The wind tossed sparks high into the air for a distance of many squares. Fear was felt for the safety of the entire town. The flames were fanned by the wind causing them to reach out to ignite neighboring properties. Water-lines were frozen which made it impossible to use the fire equipment possessed by not only the local fire departments but the fire fighters of Shenandoah, Ashland, Frackville, Mahanoy City, who had responded hurriedly to the call of help. After a courageous battle of long hours of untiring effort success greeted the firemen. The entire square had been consumed by the hungry flames, causing a total loss of approximately $150,000. This was the second great loss by fire that the town had experienced.

World War Times

1917—"and every rock and rill of Girardville" vibrated with a declaration of war. First the call to arms. The response to the call to arms was 298 gallant, young stalwarts and five courageous maidens marching to the call of the colors.

Liberty Bond Drives, Sales of War Saving and Thrift Stamps were over-subscribed. The appeal for bandages, first-aid kits, woolen goods and all articles for the comfort of the soldiers was quickly answered. Girardville showed its spirit to be "100 percent American!"

The spirit of the occasion was dimmed. The town was palled to hear of the death of Daniel Coon, Oct. 6, 1918. This was the first of many more to follow.

Then, the Armistice and "Johnny came marching home again!" Happy reunions everywhere. Gala celebrations of every description were the order of the times. But again sadness is evidenced, for it was noticed as the Girardville Boys of Khaki marched the streets under the Arches of Triumph that were constructed across the streets, that their ranks had been thinned by the loss of many companions. The roll call showed that taps had sounded on eight occasions for the comrades missing. Nineteen of the Girardville group had been the victims of wounds. Thus Girardville wrote its history of the World War.

Influenza Epidemic

Concurrently to the World War, a local tragedy was being enacted. The influenza epidemic was victimizing the people. The strange malady, baffling the medical profession, resisting treatments, felled the manhood of the town. The town was affected in 450 instances with occurrences of the disease. Entire families were infected at the same time, making it impossible to render the proper treatment that the disease needed. However, relief was given to the local doctors by volunteer workers from the town, by the War Dept. in sending a corps of doctors to aid, by assignment of nuns by Cardinal Dougherty to the assistance of the emergency hospital created in the Girard Hose Co. Building. The battle was waged successfully the death rate being but 5% of those affected.

During the next two years the task of the town was that of re-adjustment—the recuperation from the ravages of the influenza epidemic and the solution of providing employment for the returning soldier boys. Both were solved gradually to the satisfaction of all.

In 1920, a new development was started in the town by Allen Glick. Upon his return from military service he built a knitting mill on Ash St. The factory took the name of the owner by which it is still known. It was constructed by A. H. Ramberger at an approximate cost of $14,000. The mill upon its opening employed 10 people. It now employs approximately 30 people.

School Property Bought

The Episcopal Church property located on Ogden St. was purchased by the Board of Education in 1921. The church building was rented for a few years previous at a cost of $120 per month. The Board of Education recognized the saving that the district could realize by the purchase and negotiated the purchase for $2,500. The building was purchased from Bishop Talbot of the Bethlehem Diocese. The Board of Education responsible for this saving was composed of the following men: George Bush, Pres.; Patrick McClain, Secy.; George Nattress, Treas., and Wm. Halton and Henry Longlantz, members.

An over-crowded condition contributed to a further development of the school system of Girardville when in this year St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church erected a church school. It was built at an expenditure of $65,000. The building was planned to accommodate 500 pupils.

The school was opened Sept. 22, 1921. Rev. Mealey was the pastor in charge of the parish at the time of its opening, as well as during its erection. However, he was succeeded by Rev. T. K. Connel, in April, 1923. The school's initial enrollment was 450, under the direction of nine nuns.

The building and property gaining era of 1921 sponsored a remodeling of the Lutheran Church. The exter-

ior and interior were elaborately refinished with modern work of masonry and carpentry.

Liberty Bank Organized

The Liberty National Bank capitalized at $50,000, made its debut into the financial life of the community in this year. It was located in the Offshany Building in the room now used for post office quarters. The first directors of the bank were: Pres., Dr. Buckley; Vice Pres., Jacob Holt; Directors: Thos. Weller, M. E. Moran, Jos. Heckert, Andrew Offshany, Wm. Halton, E. J. Maginnis, M. J. Clarke, Frank Wagner and Frank Edmonds. Francis Breslin was the Cashier, and Walter Maginnis, assistant.

New Bank Opened

The third and final steps in the town's financial development took place in this same year. The Victory State Bank was opened for business in the store room of the P. M. property located at Main and Wm. Streets. The Bank was capitalized at $125,000 and the stock sold at $50 per share. The first board of directors were: M. A. Kilker, Pres.; Frederick Serr, Secy.; George Bush, John Cuff, Edward Dougherty, M. J. McDonald, Raymond E. Mallams, Andrew Beneshunas, Frank Hill, Thos. Kelshaw, Patrick Brennan, Frank Palladine, Wm. Loftus, M. G. Dewey, Wm. T. McDonald, P. S. Malloy, E. C. Malarkey and Frank Gorman. After approximately five months of existence and sensational growth the bank was rechartered as a Trust Company, Aug. 7, 1923.

In 1923 the Board of Education realized the need of more modern school buildings. Accordingly they submitted to a vote the question of a bond issue of $175,000 for the purpose of erecting a new high school building. In a very closely contested election in which one of the largest votes ever cast up to this time, in the town, was recorded, the issue was defeated.

Religious Activities

The next few years centered itself principally with religious development. In 1924, the second pipe-organ of the Protestant churches of the town was installed in Zion Lutheran Church. The installation of this organ, plus the refinishing of the church a few years previous, made this one of the finest and most modern church homes of the town.

Educational development interlocks with the religious development at this point. In this same year St. Joseph's Parochial School enlarged upon its field of work by adding a high school unit to its educational system. In the course of another year the school was duly accredited by the Penna. State Dept. of Public Instruction.

The fiftieth anniversary of Methodism in Girardville took place at this time. The pastor in charge of the congregation of these years was Rev. Zweizig. The church membership made this an occasion long to be remembered by the elaborate improvements to the church property. New pews, carpet, new lighting fixtures, panel work and painting constituted the major improvements. These improvements were further enhanced by the addition of a beautifully toned pipe-organ. The cost of the improvements was approximately $7,000.

St. Vincent's Church Built

The growth of the congregation of St. Vincent de Paul's Church was responsible for the decision to erect a new church home. The old church formerly Armory Hall, was no long-

er large enough to minister to the needs of the congregation. Accordingly, in 1923, the old building was completely razed. Services for the members of the congregation were conducted in the basement of St. Joseph's Church Building at Main and Richard Sts.

The following year, 1925, the first step toward the erection of the church of St. Vincent De Paul was taken. The cornerstone of the church was laid Nov. 1 of this year. Cardinal Dougherty also bestowed his blessing. The wintry months meant nothing to the people of St. Vincent's and the work of construction was carried forward during the entire winter.

In 1925 another journalistic endeavor was recorded. The town paper that came into existence at this time was known as "The News" and was published by an ambitious, young man, named Williams. The paper was started as a daily sheet, but it met with very poor reception by the town. It was published in different forms, weekly and daily, at intervals until 1927, when it was discontinued. This marked the end of journalistic enterprises in the town of Girardville, with the exception of the high school paper, "The Blue Ace," which is received with a marked popularity by the people. However, the newspapers from Shenandoah, Ashland, Mount Carmel, Pottsville, Mahanoy City and Phila. supply the reading tastes of the town daily.

Bank Merger

It was in this year that the Liberty National Bank discontinued its existence as an individual institution. The Board of Directors of this institution decided that it was to the advantage of the depositors to merge the strength of their bank with that of The First National Bank. The merger was agreed upon and was completed Sept. 1, 1925.

The pupil enrollment in the public schools was too great for the school facilities in 1926. To meet this need, The Board of Education rented room space from Andrew Beneshunas, in the building known as Beneshunas' Hall. Rooms were equipped and two classes were accommodated in these temporary quarters. The teachers assigned to these rooms were Miss Nellie Bergen and Miss Kathryn Purcell. Although this condition was not the best, it was agreed that it was far better than placing the school on a part time basis.

Cardinal Dougherty returned to Girardville May 30, of this year to bless the completed church of St. Vincent de Paul. The ceremony was very elaborate and was attended by people of Girardville and neighboring towns. Immediately following the blessing of the church by Cardinal Dougherty the church was opened for inspection. The church is a beautiful brick structure, with an auditorium capable of comfortably accommodating its large membership of 2700 parishioners, as well as a large social hall and school quarters. It represents an expenditure of approximately $100,000. It contains a pipe organ costing $10,000.

Following the completion of the Church of St. Vincent de Paul, the local Board of Education immediately took steps to provide more adequately for the school children attending school in Beneshunas' Hall, by renting four of the six school rooms that the new church building contained. This gave the school children four beautiful new and modern school homes. They are in use today.

Two New Organizations

In 1927 two new organizations made their appearance in the town. One was a fraternal order known as The Sons of Italy. The lodge was organized March, 1927, and consisted of a membership of 58 people. The following persons were selected to serve in an official capacity: Jos. Capparell, Pres.; Frank Forte, Vice Pres.; Daniel DeRisco, Fin. Secy.; Frank Coriglano, Rec. Secy.; Dominick D'Allesandro, Treas. The other organization that made its appearance was entirely civic in nature. It was called the "Lions' Club." The people charged with the performance of the official duties were: Wm. Horsewood, Pres., and Raymond Wayne, Secy.-Treas. They established as their major project "eyesight conservation and preservation."

First Catholic H. S. Graduates

A very important milestone was experienced by the town in 1928, when St. Joseph's Catholic H. S. graduated its first class. This was perhaps the most important community event in this year.

Changes were few in the years of 1928 and 1929. The lack of contributions of these years, however, is realized in the contribution of 1930 in the establishment of the community playground. Construction on this project was started in the early part of this year. The Lions' Club was the originator of the movement. Bazaars and benefits were conducted by which a fund of $3,600 was realized. This money was used in filling and leveling the ground and for the purchase of equipment. The ground located at the East End of town, was leased by the Club from the Girard Estate.

The task proved too great for the small club, however, and they formed an association composed of The Lions Club and interested prominent citizens called "The Community Playground Association." William Scheele was President, Gerald McAndrew was Vice Pres., Frank Hill, Secy., and Leon Nestor served as Treas. The work of the Association proceeded very rapidly and successfully and on May 30, 1930, the finished project was dedicated.

In this same year a financial organization made its appearance, The Union National B. and L. Association.

Serious Mishap

A very serious mishap occurred in 1931 when, on May 14, the West End Fire Truck in returning from a response to a false alarm collided with a large, steel-bodied truck at Main and St. John Sts. Both vehicles were traveling at a moderate rate of speed. The impact of the meeting of these two heavy bodies was so great that the firemen were hurled high into the air crashing to the street with great force. Two were seriously injured. They were James Panno and Martin Canavan. Some ten or more firemen were treated for cuts, bruises, and shock. The truck was rendered unfit for future use.

Oct. 28, 1932, the congregation of the Church of St. Vincent de Paul celebrated its 25th anniversary. The ceremony was very impressive due to the fact that the founder of the parish, Rev. A. M. Milukas, and the builder of the new structure, Rev. I. F. Valanciunas, were both present at the celebration.

Sept. 25-29, 1832, inclusive, Girardville celebrated the 100th anniversary of its founding. The occasion was one of great ceremony. Parades, entertainments and oratory were the chief dishes of the "holiday feast."

The town was filled to capacity by the return of former residents

and visitors from neighboring towns. The town was beautiful in festive colors which adorned it during the period of gayety.

One of the outstanding events in the celebration of the town was the "School Day Program." On the afternoon of the second day, Sept. 26, "The Blue Aces", the representative team of the Girardville High School opened the program by thrilling a holiday crowd with a spectacular exhibition in a football contest with the Alumni. Motion pictures were taken of the machine-like precision with which "The Blue Aces" operated. In the evening the schools of the public school system were joined by the complete enrollment of St. Joseph's Parochial School System, in a monster, mummer parade. The march was pageant-like in the display of drills, costumes and ensembles. Great was the pride that the citizens felt from the cooperative and original display that their schools staged for the benefit of the crowd that had assembled.

However, this celebration was practically the only bright spot of the years 1929-34. The trials and tribulations of the citizenry were increasing constantly. Since 1929 the town had slowly but surely recognized the sting of depression that was sweeping nation-wide.

The wheels of industries upon which the town was dependent moved slower—struggled pitifully—then "stilled" themselves! The "claws of hard-times" reached out and grasped the hamlet. "The siege was on!" Then, the "banking holidays", staunch in their trust, the citizens stood undaunted. Were they not of the sterner quality of their predecessors? Then the sun struggled from behind the clouds—the banks re-opened! But the rays of the sun were less penetrating for from this ordeal a terrifying experience resulted—a financial institution, The Victory Banking Trust Co. crumbled—but the citizenry pressed gallantly onward.

Hunger and the need for clothing had to be satisfied. A relief board was promptly organized. Instrumental in the first relief assistance were Rev. Davies and Thos. Kelshaw, Sr. In addition the Red Cross Unit cooperated with the federal authorities in the distribution of flour and clothing. The burden was made easier to bear.

Relief for the body did not relieve the torment of mind. "WORK! WORK!" was the cry of the vast army of unemployed in the town. Then, "manna" was given to the oppressed, by the N. R. A. . . . the initial prescription for recovery. Quickly the towns people subscribed to the spirit of the movement. Jobs were created, people were employed. The rays of the sun become more penetrating . . . they sparkled with a greater brilliancy. However, the patient did not respond as quickly as desired. Another prescription . . . the C. W. A. was given to the invalid town. Car tracks were torn from the streets and the excavations were paved. The creek was cleaned and re-channeled. Hundreds of the unemployed were placed in positions. The rays of the sun were gladdening. The patient was responding. Thus, we leave the history to be written by the succeeding generations to tell us of Girardville "on the road back."

EDUCATIONAL HISTORY

Education, in Girardville, began in 1841 in a little school house located on East Mahanoy Avenue. The teacher in charge of this school was Miss Sarah Stanton, later Mrs. Horey, Rochelle, N. Y. There are one or two persons still living in

town that attended this school. In 1872 another school was established in the West Ward. This was a frame building, and was known as the "Old White School." The teacher in charge was Miss Mary McGurl. The school is still in use. It takes care of the first five grades.

About 1875 a two-story building was erected where the high school building now stands. It consisted of two school rooms. The teacher in charge was P. H. Monaghan. He was decorated Colonel for his gallantry in the Civil War and was known as Colonel Monaghan by all his friends.

About 1876 the "Old Second Street" school building was erected. It consisted of four rooms, three of which were class rooms, the other being used for supplies. The eighth grade room in which Miss Martha Gwyther now teaches was then the high school room. The following were the teachers in charge: Miss Margaret Smith, Miss Emma Smith, Miss Moister, Miss Margaret T. Smith, Miss Annie McAndrew, Miss Ella Higgens and Miss Mame Monaghan. Miss Monaghan was elected supervising principal. The high school had an orchestra at this time which was under the supervision of Miss Monaghan.

The School Board at this time consisted of the following members: Thos. Connor, E. C. Wagner, Henry Shofstall, George Rogers, Patrick Folliard and Ephraim Golden. This Board selected Thos. Connor, president; Henry Shofstall, secy.; and E. C. Wagner, treas.

In 1896 a new high school building was erected on the corner of Second and Oak streets. This building after a period of thirty-eight years still houses the high school. The Board of Directors at the time of the erection of this building consisted of the following members: A. Kitto, pres.; T. L. Evans, secy.; T. Pedlow, treas.; Major E. C. Wagner, Dr. W. L. C. Forrester, P. C. Foy, P. Portner, R. Green, and John H. Haley. P. Rudrauff was the Architect, and F. B. McGorvia, Superintendent of the Construction.

This new school was dedicated by the pupils and teachers of the old high school.

Due to the over-crowded conditions in the public schools the Episcopal Church was rented for school sessions for $120 per year. In 1921 the Girardville School District bought the building from Bishop Talbot, of Bethlehem, for $2,500 cash. This building took care of first, second, and third grades.

The School Board at this time was composed of the following members: George Bush, president; Patrick McClain, secretary; George Nattress, treasurer; William Halton and Henry Longlantz.

In 1926 they also rented Beneshunas' Hall and converted it into two school rooms in which the sixth grade was taught, Miss Nellie Bergan and Miss Kathryn Purcell having charge.

In the same year St. Vincent's Building was completed consisting of an auditorium and six class rooms. These rooms were rented by the public school board and four are still being used.

Now, as then, the schools are greatly over-crowded and the teachers and students would appreciate a new high school. The number of members of incoming classes are increasing every year. There are approximately 300 students in the high school.

This session (1933-34) one extra teacher was added to the faculty and one extra room was provided.

The school board at the present 1933-1934 time consists of the following members: Wm. Halton, pres.; Wm. Harris, vice pres., and treas; Harry Haywood, secy.; Ray Stack and Wm. Clarke.

St. Joseph's Parochial School

St. Joseph's Parochial School was built in 1921 at a cost of approximately $65,000. It was opened in September, 1922, for educational purposes. The school was built to accommodate five hundred students. It now has an enrollment of about 650.

At the time of erection of the school, the Rev. J. J. Mealy was pastor of St. Joseph's parish. In April, 1923, the Rev. T. K. Connel was given the pastorship and supervision of the school.

Under his supervision the school flourished. Its first enrollment numbered about 450 students in the primary grades with a faculty of nine nuns under the supervision of the Mother Superior.

In 1924 the school added a high school to its course. In 1925 it was given state recognition, and in 1928 the first class was graduated.

In June 1932 the management was given to the Rev. J. Smith, and in May, 1933, it was passed into the hands of the Rev. J. Boyle.

The cost of operation at the present time is approximately five hundred dollars monthly. Today the school is under the control of the board consisting of the Revs. J. Boyle, J. Monaghan, and J. McErlane and under the supervision of Mother Anecetuis. It has an enrollment of 645 students, 110 of whom being high school students.

The teaching is in charge of twelve nuns. The course of instruction is similar to that of all public schools.

RELIGIOUS HISTORY

In the years 1873-74, members of the Baptist Church of St. Clair with Rev. Wm. Warlow as pastor, included Girardville in their mission field, and after some time succeeded in forming a Baptist Sunday School, which held its first meeting on July 12, 1875. The Sunday School numbered 11 teachers and 36 scholars and consisted of members of Baptist families, among them being Wm. Waters and George Howells of the P. & R. C. & I. Co. Jonathan Harvey and wife, Daniel Morris, Thos. Richards and David Evans and wife, of Ashland, presented letters from other churches. There were others at this time who were baptized by Rev. Warlow and they, together with the rest of the folks, were recognized as the Girardville Baptist Church.

The meetings were held in the Primary school building on Second St. (now the High School Building). Rev. Warlow served here until Oct. 1876, and in Dec., 1876, the Penna. Mission Board sent Rev. Samuel Goodshall to care for this field and also to supply stations in Shenandoah and Frackville.

The lot on which the church and parsonage stands was purchased from the Girard Estate on Nov. 10, 1878, for the sum of $25. The building was built by Price and Hall, at a cost of $2,000. The furnishing and cabinet organ cost $400 more, and the entire expense was provided for on the day of the dedication.

The charter was granted to the Trustees on the 2nd of August 1881. The first trustees whose names appear on the charter were: Wm. Waters, John W. Evans, Richard Hey-

wood, David Morris, Wm. Lewis, Silas Heywood, Jas. Britten.

The first Deacons of the church were: Wm. Waters, Geo. Howells and Richard Heywood.

In 1895 the parsonage was built by Rev. Blackman, who worked very hard to make this important addition to the church. Most of the work for the parsonage was done free. Rev. G. H. Zwoyer was here the longest term of any of the pastors, and it is remarkable the work he accomplished during his pastorate as he was a blind man. He was here during the great mine strike of 1900-02, and refused any salary for the year. During his term 1896-1903 there were added to the church 105 persons and of this number 81 were baptized. (This record has not been equalled either before or since that time).

During the years 1904-08 with Rev. H. A. Barton as pastor the present art-glass windows and the metallic ceiling and sides were secured. The cost was $750. The basement of the church was excavated and the present Sunday School room was furnished at a cost of $1,000. These improvements brought the church to its present condition.

Since the time of the organization of the church it has had, to date, (1934) 19 different pastors; and during that time it has been without a pastor for approximately 11½ years. (This includes the times elapsing between pastoral appointments.) During all that time it is not recalled when the church was compelled to close for lack of a leader, as the deacons and laymen of the church always took charge of the services until a new pastor was secured.

The names of the pastors and the order in which they served are as follows: Revs. Wm. Warlow, Saml. Goodshall, T. D. Davies, A. W. Peck, A. P. Levcy, B. B. Henshaw, J. M. Lyons, Thos. J. Edwards, M. H. Blackman, G. H. Zwoyer, H. A. Barton, Walter Whitley, T. W. Evans. W. H. Savage, F. N. Parson, E. Judson Barnes, Isaac J. Pugh, M. G. Hatcher, Wm. Haydn Rees.

St. Joseph's Catholic Church

Prior to August, 1870, what is now comprised in St. Joseph's Parish, Girardville, was part of the Ashland Parish. Services were conducted, however, in the Coughlin residence on East Mahanoy Avenue, "the finger board," by Father Michal Sheridan, Ashland. He visited these meetings each Sunday, traversing the distance upon horseback. His ministrations were received by the Catholics of Girardville, Lost Creek, and Mahanoy Plane. These meetings were later held in a small frame Chapel.

On August 10, 1870, the Rev. Jos. Bridgman was appointed first pastor of St. Joseph's Church. The new parish included, in addition to the Catholics of Girardville, the towns of Lost Creek and Mahanoy Plane, and consisted of about 8000 members. With the creation of the new parish, the place of worship was transferred from Mahanoy Avenue to the site of the present Church home.

A temporary, one-story, frame building was erected on the rear of the lot which now contains the present church building on Main and Richards Sts. In this building the masses were held and Sunday School and parish meetings were conducted. This building was used until the basement of the main church was completed.

This temporary building was constructed from the timbers of the original frame chapel that was located on East Mahanoy Ave. for the visitations of Father Michael Sheridan. The original building was

razed and transferred to the present site.

October 21, 1872, the corner stone for the present church edifice was laid. The ceremony was conducted by the Most Rev. James Wood, Archbishop of Phila. However, this marked merely the first stage of construction. When the framework was erected, a storm swept the region, demolishing the framework. Foreman Jennings, St. Clair, was killed by the falling net work of timbers. The damages of the storm were quickly repaired, and building operations were continued with a great zeal.

The building was constructed of a hand-wrought stone basement with a frame upper. The stone used in the basement was gathered from the mountain side. It was prepared for its use by John Gaughan, Rappahannock, who was an expert stone cutter. The approximate cost of the construction was $40,000.

Great foresight was used in construction of the new church home. Today this same building is accommodating the congregation. It rises majestically for an approximate distance of 83 feet. Its auditorium dimensions are 70 feet in width and 135 feet in length. It is capable of accommodating 1100 people for a service. It was further enhanced by the installation of a pipe-organ at a cost of $3,000.

The erection of St. Joseph's Church began a new era in Catholicism. The original membership of 8000 increased and from this huge congregation two additional parishes were created, one at Lost Creek and one at Mahanoy Plane. Regardless of this depletion of membership, St. Joseph's membership still boasts of 2830 members.

The lineage of pastorate following the Rev. Jos. Bridgman is as follows: 1877, Father D. O'Connor; 1886, Father Peter McCullough; 1913, Father J. Mealey; 1923, Father T. K. Connel; 1932, Father J. Smith; 1933, Father M. Boyle.

Reformed and Episcopal Churches

In 1896 the congregation of the Reformed Church, which at that time met with the Lutherans on Second St., built a meeting house on Ogden St. Rev. Bowers of Frackville came to the church to preach every Sunday.

One by one the families of the church fell away until at length the congregation disbanded.

In 1809, Mrs. Benj. D. Beddal organized the Episcopal Church in this town. About 1900, the Episcopalians bought the property from the Reformed. Rev. Cooper of Ashland presided over the meetings. Later Rev. Warnock took his place. Like the first congregation they found that they were going into debt also, so finally they closed the church. It was then rented to the Girardville School District for $120 per year. In March of 1921, the Girardville School District bought the building from Bishop Talbot, of Bethlehem, Penna., for $2500, cash. The school board at that time consisted of the following members: Geo. Bush, pres.; Patrick McClain, secy.; Geo. Nattress, treas.; Wm. Halton and Henry Longlantz. It is still used as a school building for the first, second and third grades.

St. Vincent De Paul's

Mass and other religious services were held for the Lithuanian people of Girardville as early as 1904, by Rev. A. M. Milukas, of Shenandoah. On Sundays masses were held in the Opera House, and on weekdays in a store-room on East Main St.

In 1906, Father Milukas began to form his congregation. In this year many Lithuanians from other towns moved to Girardville. Many of the families went into the organization of the first parish. Among these people, the first organizers and parishioners, were the late Frank Shimulaitis, Sylvester Bielauskas, Walter Marcincavage, John Greblick and Mr. Chapley, an uncle of Father Milukas.

They bought the "Armory Hall" from the Girard Estate in 1906, for $8,000. It was a low wooden structure, with several rooms at the top, and a large hall in the basement. While the basement was being remodeled, an altar was placed in one of the rooms upstairs and mass was held there.

The first altar-boys of St. Vincents Church were: Anthony Bann, Joseph Ackromas and John Bernotas. Ackromas and Bernotas entered the seminary in later years to study for the priesthood, but they did not complete the course.

Father Mulukas lived with Mrs. Chapley, his aunt, on Main St. After the Armory Hall was bought, he created a rectory on Main St., in a house owned by the Czepukaitis family.

The first church was blessed by the Archbishop of the Phila. Diocese on Nov. 1, 1907 and was given the name of St. Vincent De Paul's Lithuanian Roman Catholic Church.

The following priests succeeded Rev. A. M. Milukas as rectors of the church: Reverend Father Pautenius. Father Taskunas, Father Dumczius, Father Mickun, now rector of St. Casimir's Polish Church, in Shenandoah, Father Augustaitis, Father Valaitis, Father Valanicunas and Rev. Michael Daumantas. All priests, with the exception of Father Valanciunas, were rectors only for very short periods of time.

In May, 1919, Father Valaitis was succeeded by Rev. Father I. F. Valanciunas. Father Valanciunas, seeing the condition of the church, called the parishioners together and suggested that a new church should be built. The parishioners agreed to this and in 1923 the old structure was torn down and preparations for the building of the new church were made.

Father Valanciunas worked very hard in order that the building of a new church might be a success. Many times he escaped injury while working on the scaffolds.

The construction of the new building covered a period of approximately two years. During this time services were conducted in the basement of St. Joseph's Church.

The cornerstone of the new church was laid in Nov. 1925, and was blessed by Cardinal Dougherty. Throughout the entire winter, building operations continued, and on May 30, 1926, the church was blessed by Cardinal Dougherty. Immediately after it was opened for inspection.

The church, a beautiful brick structure, was designed by Mr. Freeland, an architect of Reading. It has four bells in the steeple, one of which was donated by the Rev. I. F. Valanciunas, and which bears his name. Another was bought by Mr. Offshany. The other two were bought by the parishioners. The church is valued at about $100,000, and the pipe organ is valued at $10,000. The bells were christened by the late Rev. Kaulakis.

In the rear of the church a school was built for the education of Lithuanian children, but due to the lack of funds it was not opened. It is rented to the public school board of Girardville.

Oct. 28, 1932, a banquet was held as part of the celebration of the 25th anniversary of the church.

Among the speakers present was the Rev. A. M. Milukas, the first pastor of the church, now chaplain of St. Catherine's Hospital, Brooklyn, N. Y.

In 1933 the Rev. I. F. Valanciunas, after fourteen years of pastorship, was sent to Philadelphia, on Aug. 28. He was succeeded by the Rev. Michael F. Daumantas, of Minersville. Father Daumantas is present rector of the church. He is working very diligently to inaugurate a system to establish the church as a sound social agent.

Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church

Early records of Lutheranism in Girardville disclose the fact that the Lutheran and Reformed congregations joined for their services of worship in the church building of the M. E. congregation. They rented the basement quarters for Sunday School sessions and the church auditorium for their church services. Dr. Duenger, Ashland, a Reformed pastor, ministered to the religious needs of this flock twice a month.

However, the Lutherans, realizing their growing strength, decided to worship separately and distinctly free from the forms and customs of other denominations. Thus, a separation occurred in the joint congregations and they began their own individual worship. (The Lutherans outnumbered the Reformeds 3-1).

Though they separated from the Reformed group for the purpose of conducting their services, they held their services in a two room brick building on Second St., the site of the present high school, with the Baptist congregation. The upstairs was used by the Lutherans and the downstairs by the Baptists. This constitutes the records prior to 1880. The actual dates of the respective moves in the establishment of the denominations have been lost.

The more accurate record of Lutheranism in Girardville, begins June 1, 1880, with the first sermon delivered in their upstairs quarters in the brick school on Second St. The sermon was delivered by Rev. J. P. German, Ringtown, in the German language, as were all the services during the early dates of local Lutheranism. Under Rev. German's pastorate, the first officers were elected, of whom W. H. Kautter, Secretary, is the only one now living. It was in this year, 1880, that the first resident minister took charge. The minister was Rev. W. H. Geiger, who filled the pulpit from August, 1880, until June, 1882.

Shortly after Rev. Geiger began his pastorate, Oct. 3, 1880, a committee of three was appointed to secure a lot for the church. This was soon accomplished, for by the end of the month, Oct. 30, two lots were selected. The deed for these lots were secured as a gift from the Girard Estate. It was then that the congregation selected the present name, Zion's Evangelical German Lutheran Church.

Excavation for the foundation of the church was delayed until the following spring, 1881, when the first real work of the building was begun. The building committee was appointed, consisting of the trustees and three members of the congregation. The work on the church proceeded rapidly, and by September 25, the cornerstone was laid, with Revs. Geiger, Gruhler and Pohle officiating. The Rev. J. P. German's sermon in the evening of the day was given in English.

From this point on changes were noted with great rapidity. The basement was dedicated by the Pastor, Rev. Geiger, on June 25, 1882. This date also marks the installa-

tion of the Pastor elect Rev. W. M. Rehrig, who filled the pulpit until Aug. 1, 1887. On Nov. 27, 1882, a charter was secured and a constitution was adopted. The following year Jan. 7, 1883, the first class of twenty-one persons were confirmed, February, 1883, the first Ladies Aid Society in the church's history was organized. It progressed rapidly for many years, but finally it became inactive. The year 1915 marked the reorganization of the society, which has been advancing in great strides ever since.

The following is a list of events occurring in consecutive order:

Oct. 7, 1883, The audience room was dedicated by Rev. Gruhler; July 27, 1884, the First pipe organ was installed; Sept. 4, 1887, Rev. J. O. Leihensper became pastor continuing until July 1st, 1889; Sept. 1, 1890, to Dec. 31, 1891, Rev. J. Hillpot and July 1, 1892, to April 16, 1900, Rev. E. O. Leopold, were pastors; 1896, Extensive improvements were made on the church, and the Luther League, organized in 1892. presented the Baptismal Font; June 25, 1900 to April, 1904, Rev. Heldt, July 9, 1905, to Oct. 15, 1907, Rev. Bachofer and June 7, 1908 to Sept. 13, 1911, Rev. W. A. Dries were pastors.

1912-13 Rev. John A. Geigley supplied the congregation, but was never installed as a pastor; Aug. 4, 1914 to 1918, Rev. O. S. Scheirer was pastor; Nov. 1914, The Junior Luther League was organized; 1919-24, Rev. Luther Coffman was pastor; 1921-22, the church was again remodeled; May 21, 1924, a new pipe organ was dedicated; March 25, 1925, the present pastor, Rev. C. B. Lintwed, began his pastorate, and was installed April 19, 1925. During the pastorate the Zion Lutheran Church celebrated its 50th anniversary, the week of June 8, 1930.

Methodist Episcopal Church

Very little is known of the early history of Methodism in Girardville. It is said that occasional services were held in the town as early as 1841. In 1867, a church was built by the Hon. Jay Cooke, which was transferred to the Methodist Episcopal Church in 1869, during the pastorate of Rev. D. D. Hudson. The charge was then known as Preston Mission. A parsonage was also built and furnished by Mr. Cooke about this time. In the fall of 1873, a lot was presented to the church by the Girard Estate, in a more suitable part of the town. The present church was built in 1874, during the pastorate of the Rev. D. M. Gordon. In 1904, extensive improvements were made, at a cost of about $2,800. In 1915 further improvements were made to the Sunday School room, the Sunday School providing for the improvements.

Extensive revivals have occurred at different periods. The first in 1874-1875, during the pastorate of Rev. D. M. Gordon, and the second in 1883 under the pastorate of Rev. P. S. Merrill, when one hundred were added to the church. Revs. H. White and A. I. Collum were also quite successful in winning souls, as were Rev. W. K. MacNeal, Lin Bowman, and J. E. Deacon. Rev. Bowman is now chaplain at the Eastern Penitentiary, Philadelphia.

During the pastorate of Rev. H. R. Hoffman, in 1913, Misses Brown and Coombe presented to the church a Hymn board and Communion table. The Junior League, under the guidance of Rev. Ottey, presented the elaborate bulletin board which now hangs beside the main entrance of the church.

The celebration of the 50th anniversary of the building during the pastorate of Rev. Wm. H. Zweizig was marked by the installation of the new pipe organ, pews, carpet, lights, panel work, painting, all of which cost approximately $7,000.

In 1928 during the pastorate of Rev. C. Carter, Miss E. Brown presented the Baptismal Font, in memory of her life long friend, Miss Coombe.

Later in 1929, Miss Brown presented the American Flag in memory of her mother, Mrs. Roberts. In the same year the Heywood family gave the Communion set in memory of their mother, and a year later Miss Haas presented the preacher's Communion set and the Christian Flag in memory of her brother, John E. Haas.

The electric cross, which hangs in the center of the church, was presented by members of the Wesleyan club, in 1931. The final improvements were made in 1933, when Miss L. Haas donated linoleum to be laid in the vestibule of the church.

The primary department of the Sunday School was remodeled. Paintings, radiators, and organ, and teachers' tables were installed. The outstanding feature of these improvements was the small tables and chairs which were placed in the rooms for the children.

The list of pastors is as follows: D. D. Hudson, 1867-1869; Andrew Cather, 1870; Joseph Bicherton, 1871; David McKee, 1872; E. Pickersgill, 1873; D. M. Gordon, 1874-5; D. H. Shields, 1876; A. L. Urban, 1877; Josiah Bowden, 1878-9; Geo. A. Wolfe, 1880-1-2; P. S. Merrill, 1883-4; W. T. Magee, 1885-6; Henry White, 1887-8-9; A. I. Collum, 1890-1; Richard Kaines, 1892-3-4-5; W. K. McNeal, 1896-7; Jay Dickerson, 1898; George Mack, 1899-1900-1; Linn Bowman, 1902-3; T. T. Martin, 1904-5; J. E. Deacon, 1906; H. R. Johnson, 1907-8-9; H. B. Baird, 1910-11; William May, 1912; H. R. Hoffman, 1913; E. Pickersgill, 1914-15-16-17; A. C. F. Ottey, 1918,-19-20-21-22; W. H. Zweizig, 1923-24-25-26-27; C. Carter, 1928-29-30; J. L. Carr, 1931-32-33.

Primitive Methodist Church

The Primitive Methodist Church was founded during the year 1863. It is the oldest church in this community. Dating from the year 1863 to the present year, 1934, it has been privileged to have had the pastorate of twenty-three ministers.

1863-1866, Rev. Chas. Spurr; 1866-1869, Rev. R. Povey; 1869-1871, Rev. Richard Turner; 1871-1872, Rev. W. B. Bache; 1872-1874, Rev. J. W. Reed; 1874-1875, Rev. W. B. Bache; 1875-1877, Rev. H. G. Russell; 1877-1879, Rev. Geo. Parker; 1879-1880, Rev. Samuel Evans; 1880-1883, Rev. Thos. Bateman; 1883-1888, Rev. S. R. Chubb; 1888-1890, Rev. Wm. McNally, 1890-1892, Rev. Geo. Ball; 1892-1893, Rev. Elijah Humphries; 1893-1897, Rev. T. M. Bateman; 1897-1901, Rev. S. Nichols; 1901-1904, Rev. S. Cooper; 1904-1907, Rev. Daniel Savage; 1907-1916, Rev. W. F. Paul; 1916-1917, Rev. Geo. Powis; 1917-1922, Rev. J. N. Reseigh; 1922-1925, Rev. John Stephens; 1925—Rev. Isaac Davies.

The Primitive Methodist Church of Girardville began while the nation was in the midst of the great Civil War. A small band of Christians met in a little frame Sunday School room, in the western part of the town to study the Word of God. While meeting at that time, there was no thought of denominations as this was the only Sunday School in town and was called the Union Sunday School.

After some time divisions began to appear and in the interests of harmony the Primitive Methodists formed a band of believers and had their own services.

About a period of six months of activity elapsed during which time a group of men, numbering nine in all, selected the present location and purchased the plot for the P. M. Church, in trust, which at that time was not incorporated.

These men were: Wm. Yoe, Henry Townsend, Thos. Marsh, Wm. F. Horswood, Henry Croaks, Arthur Mills, Josiah Boughey, John Smith, Wm. Gwyther.

The deed of the church is dated Dec. 21, 1863, the town being known as Foulketown, Pa.

The society was held together by Rev. C. Spurr, assisted by local preachers. A frame church was erected on the plot of ground and work began in earnest. New members were constantly added to the membership of the church and the business of the church became so pressing that in 1869, incorporation as a church was sought, and a charter was granted Dec. 20, 1869, naming as trustees of the church: John Smith, Chas. Spurr, Thos. Marsh, David Tillet, Benj. Chadwick, Josiah Boughey, Geo. Harris, Geo. Strong, Jas. Stonier.

During the month of January, 1872, the church was completely destroyed, an overheated stove being the cause of the fire. However, these pioneers did not give up hope, but began making arrangements for a church that could not burn, for the new church was to be a brick structure. In the latter part of 1872 the church was under roof and during the year 1873 it was completed. During a period of years many changes were made. A pipe organ was placed in the church in 1902; new pews were purchased between the years 1904-1907; steam heating plant was installed about 1910 and stained glass windows and electric lights were added.

During the pastorate of Rev. Isaac Davies, the church building underwent a complete change, exterior and interior being practically rebuilt.

A. H. Ramberger, at one time architect of Girardville, submitted a plan for rebuilding the church. The plan met with the unanimous approval of the congregation and the contract was awarded to the Scheele Brothers of Girardville.

FINANCIAL HISTORY

The First National Bank

The First National Bank began operation Oct., 1890, in the Haas Building, on Main St. E. C. Wagner was the first pres.; Mr. Kaier, vice-pres., and J. S. Babs, the first cashier. Among the first subscribers were Phillip Portner, John Perong and Chas. Barnhardt.

The bank in its first year had 235 depositors. At present it has approximately 2,400.

In Oct., 1916, the bank was moved to a beautiful, modern banking building at Main and William Sts. Here was installed a burglar system. A large clock valued at $1,800 was installed. Modern bookkeeping systems were introduced.

Its history is one of steady progress. The capital stock of $40,000 at its beginning, was increased to $50,000; and in 1926, it was further increased to $80,000. In 1914, the institution was strengthened by joining the Federal Reserve System, Penna. American Bankers Asso. Then in 1933, it became a member of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act.

The bank has had two robberies in the past. The first robbers took $2,500 in cash, and $1,400 in Liberty Bonds. The men were captured and most of the cash and the Liberty Bonds were returned. The second robbery sustained a loss of $1,400. Both robberies were "stick-ups."

The Board of Directors at present include: Dr. J. F. Bryson, pres.; John Barnhardt, vice-pres.; C. Barnhardt, M. J. Clark, Geo. W. Cress, C. H. Heine, Wm. Horsewood, Henry Leonhardt, Thos. Mervine.

Mr. Schriner, the present cashier, succeeded C. S. Henderson on May 8, 1918. Miss Babs is the bookkeeper. Miss Laura Newton is in charge of all other books. Mr. Portner is the teller and C. Barnhardt the assistant cashier.

Liberty National Bank

In 1921, a number of prominent citizens, Michael Clark, Henry Leonard, Dr. T. V. Buckley, E. J. Maginnis and Andrew Offshany, organized the Liberty National Bank, situated at the corner of William and Main Sts.

The bank existed as an individual institution for about five years, the capital and surplus at the time being $386,000. The Board of Directors deemed it wise to combine with another institution, and on Sept. 1, 1926, the Liberty National Bank was merged with the First National Bank.

Victory Banking & Trust Co.

The Victory Banking & Trust Co., originally chartered under the name of "The Girardville State Bank," on Mar. 3, 1923, was located on the corner of William and Main Sts., in the Primitive Methodist Church property, the building being rented from the church trustees.

The following officers were elected: Pres., M. A. Kilker; first vice-pres., W. R. Heine; second vice-pres., Jos. Capparell; Secy., Frederick Serr,

The bank was rechartered as a Trust Co. on Aug. 7, 1923.

A new building was erected, on the opposite side of Main St., adjoining the First National Bank. The bank opened as the Victory Banking & Trust Co., retaining its name until it closed on Sept. 30, 1933.

The bank was capitalized at $125,000. The par value of the stock was $50 per share, at the time of organization. After approximately 10 years of progress, the value increased to $90 per share, remaining such at time of closing.

The officers at the time of closing were: Pres., M. A. Kilker; first vice-pres., Thos. Kelshaw; second vice-pres., Jos. Capparell; third vice-pres., Dr. T. V. Buckley.

Board of Directors: M. A. Kilker, John Cuff, Edw. Dougherty, Raymond E. Mallams, Frank Hill, W. R. Heine, Wm. Loftus, Frank Paladine, Jos. Capparell, Thos Kelshaw, Dr. Jos. T. Dougherty, Ralph Ebener, Walter Williams, Ralph Unger, M. T. McDonald, John Kenney, Dominick D'Allsandro, Geo. Horswood, Dr. P. B. Mulligan, Chas. Wandlass, Dr. T. V. Buckley.

On Mar. 4, 1933, this institution, as well as every other bank in the United States, closed its doors. After filing their reports in the State Banking Department, they were allowed to continue on a restricted basis. The directors of the bank, acting in the interest of their depositors, decided to liquidate their accounts and to make the best possible settlement, as soon as possible. The work of liquidation is now being carried on.

Building and Loan Association

The Industrial Building and Loan Association of Girardville, was in-

corporated, for thirty years, April 2, 1908. The persons making applications for incorporation were: Jos. C. Brecker, Thos. V. Dougherty, P. J. McLane, P. B. McCormick, Henry Leonhardt, Thomas A. Lynch, A. J. Farrel, Richard Purnell, Thos. Reese, John Petraytis, Jacob Portz.

The first officers were: Pres., Joseph C. Brecker; Vice Pres., Jacob Portz; Secy., P. J. McLane; Treas., John Petraytis; Solicitor, E. J. Maginnis.

The original number of share-holders is 46. The present number of share-holders is 546.

Present directors are: Thomas J. Dewey, Wm. Rogers, P. B. McCormick, Thos. A. Lynch, H. P. Leonhardt, Andrew Offshany, Thos. E. Buckley, Ray Portz, John Barnhardt, Jos. T. Moran, E. J. O'Donnell, Robert Klees, Jr.

The present officers include: Pres., H. P. Leonhardt; Vice Pres., Thomas A. Lynch; Secy., T. J. Dewey; Treas., Ray Portz; Solicitor, E. J. O'Donnell. Subscription, 2829 shares; assets, $565,800.

THE COLLIERIES

The first colliery was established in 1853. It was called the West End of Big Mine Run. The original operators were Gideon Bast and Pearson, who continued as owners until 1871.

In 1871 Gideon Bast retired and Taylor Lindsay and Co. operated the colliery until the mine was consolidated in 1876.

In 1876 Big Mine Run and West Big Mine Run were consolidated under the name of Bast Colliery. The original operators of the East Big Mine Run Colliery, from 1858 to the year 1872, were Emanuel Bast and Jacob Steinhilbert. In 1872 this colliery passed into the hands of the P. & R. C. & I. Co. Frog Hollow drifts were added to the Bast Colliery.

In 1885 Preston No. 2 Colliery became a section of the Bast. The original operators were Buckley and Moodie. They began in the year 1863 and retired in 1864. The Preston Improvement Co. operated this colliery from 1864 to 1868, when Agard Moodie and Co. took charge of it, and operated it until 1872. Then it passed into the hands of the P. & R. C. & I. Co.

The original operators of Preston No. 1 were Buckley and Moodie from 1859 to 1864. For the next 14 years not any of the operators held the collieries longer than six years. In 1864 the Preston Improvement Co. took it, and held it for three years, until 1867. In 1867, Kendricks Dovey and Son succeeded them, until 1869. Then Agard Moodie and Co. held the colliery until 1871. In 1871 William Kendricks held the colliery until 1872. Then the P. & R. C. & I. Co. took it. They held it until 1878.

In 1878 the East and the West Big Mine Run Collieries, Preston No. 1 and No. 2, were all consolidated into one and known as the Bast, with the present operators, the P. & R. C. & I. Co.

The Hammond

The present Hammond Colliery is a consolidation of the Girardville or Connors, and the Hammond Collieries. The Connors Colliery or the Girardville was first operated by Jas. J. Connors. He established it in 1861, and operated it until 1868. The succeeding operators were Agard Moodie and Co., from 1869 until 1876. Then the P. & R. C. &. I. Co. came in possession of it. They are the present owners.

The original opening of the Hammond Colliery was in 1874. In 1876, Girardville or Connors merged with the Hammond Colliery. In

1887 the Hammond became a single colliery.

The first coal shipped over the Mahanoy and Broad Mt. Railroad was on May 30, 1862, by Jas. Connors, to the Mayor of Phila. from the Girardville Colliery.

The Girard Colliery

The Girard Colliery commonly called McTurk's was first established by Cornelius Garretson in 1863. He operated this colliery until 1867, when he was joined in the enterprise by his brother, Theodore. They jointly continued the operation until 1876.

In 1876 the lease was secured by the P. & R C. & I. Co. They operated the colliery until the expiration of their lease in 1895. The colliery was non-operative until the close of 1896. Benville P. Bertolet in 1897 secured control and conducted its operation until 1898. In 1899 W. R. McTurk and Co. took over the management and continued operation until 1921, when a private company, The Girardville Mining Co. assumed control.

In 1923, The Hazle Brook Co. secured ownership.

Other Industries

Chas. H. Heine erected The Girardville Knitting Mills located on Second and Ogden Sts. in the spring of 1914. A. H. Ramberger drew the plans Mr. Heine secured from the H. I. Miller Knitting Mills, of Port Carbon, A. R. Ketner, as knitter. Mr. Ketner was the first knitter of the factory and is still employed as head knitter. Mr. Ketner was assisted in his work by these men during this period: Arthur Green, Earl Cleaver, Earl Nattress, Roy Geist, Joe Fife, Herbert Jeffries, Errow Schneff, and Wm. Ketner, A. R. Ketner's son.

At the time of the opening of the mill 36 girls were employed. They occupied the second floor, Miss Blanche White being in charge. At the present time Miss Elizabeth Yankowsky is forelady.

The personnel includes: A. R. Ketner, head knitter; Wm. C. Ketner, assistant; Arthur Green, night knitter; Harold King, shipper; Lewis Perrin, machinist; John Whitaker, shipping clerk; Miss Mildred C. Fetter, secretary.

Allen Glick, in 1920, erected a half brick and half frame building at a cost of $14,000, on Ash St. Sewing and knitting machines were installed at a cost of $7,000. Mr. Glick was the first knitter and Joe Brecker was his assistant. There were eight girls employed in the sewing department, with Mrs. Glick as forelady.

At the present time Mr. Glick employs 27 girls, with Mrs. Glick at their head. Verdean Yoder, knitter; Herbert Barnhardt, knitter; Dominick Cataldro, helper.

Fetter's Dairy was established in April, 1921, when S. H. Fetter, Pitman, Pa., purchased the business and equipment of Allan Maurer, who, up to this time, had supplied the town with its daily milk supply.

The early days of Fetter's Dairy were not devoted to a large scale production. At the outset Mr. Fetter enlarged the business to include Lost Creek and William Penn in the daily deliveries. The business was carried on by the services of two teams and seven men. Approximately 1200 customers, consuming 250 gallons of milk daily, were served.

The business, in the span of years, has reached out to include the towns of Ashland, Centralia, Frackville, Gilberton, Girardville, Lost Creek, Mahanoy City, Mt. Carmel, Shenandoah and William Penn. This necessitates the handling of approximately 1,000 gallons of milk per day.

In 1931, the business was further increased by the addition of the manufacture of ice cream. Earl Fetter, son of the original owner, purchased the business in 1933.

Girard Hose Co. No. 1

The Girard Hose Co. No. 1 organized on Jan. 9, 1882, was established for the purpose of supporting and maintaining a hose company for the control of fire.

The officers today are as follows: Pres. and Treas., Howard Burchill: Secretary, Clayton Brown; Financial Secretary, Russell Davies.

In March, 1925 the Company purchased the truck, and in 1928, the siren.

The Ranger Fire Company

The first home of the Ranger Fire Company, founded March 27, 1911, was in the Griffiths building, where they remained until this building was destroyed by fire. Then they moved to their quarters on the south side of Main St., in the square between Williams and Line Sts.

The first piece of apparatus owned by this company was a hose carriage. This equipment served for a number of years, but they replaced it with a 50 gallon two wheeled chemical tank. It was the first of its kind in the town. The next addition to their equipment was the purchase of a "Steamer." This, again, was the first of its kind in town.

They purchased their fire truck, Feb. 21, 1916. This truck is still in service.

The West End Hose Company

The West End Hose Co. was chartered in 1917. The first chief was Jos. Scully; his successors were: Peter Aranavage, Patrick Canavan, Cletus Roche, and the present chief, Wm. Scully. The first truck was purchased in 1926. They purchased their last truck in 1931.

The first members were: Jos. Halbe, John Marquadt, M. J. Walsh, Thomas L. Coon, Wm. Halbe, John Connors, Jr., Jos. Scully, Patrick J. Walsh, Anthony Halbe, Christian Oswald, Peter Aranavage, Frank O'Brien, Edw. Pitts, Jas. J. Walsh, John Scully, Jas. Oswald, B. F. Ginley, E. J. O'Donnell, Paul Munroe, John Anderson, Fred Marquadt, Harry F. Mervine, Patrick Rowan, John Connors, Jacob Marquadt, Peter Halbe, Jos. Burns, Jacob Heyer, John Halbe, Wm. Nelson, Harry McCormick, Harry Jones, Raymond Leahy, Thos. Purcell, Myles Roche, Jos. Keegan, Louis Wink, Patrick Cauffield, Thos. Toole, Michael Canavan, Thos. Connors, Geo. Marquadt, Francis O'Connell, Wm. J. O'Brien, Wm. J. Scully, Daniel Hannon, Edw. Roche, Elmer Jones, Jas. A. Connors, Jos. Fitzgerald, Jas. M. McIntyre, Thos. Gibbons, Wm. Connor, Thos. Woods, Fred Halbe, John F. Wolfe, Wm. Finn, Jos. Anderson, Wm. Bennie, Thos. McAndrew.

The following are the officers at the present time: Trustees, Joseph Halbe, Wm. Scully, Edw. Clarke; Pres., Patrick Scully; V. Pres., John Rowland; Treas., Jos. Halbe; Financial Secy., Wm. Greene; Recording Secy., Thos. Scully.

The following are the fire positions: Fire Chief, Wm. Scully; Assistant Fire Chief, Martin Canavan; Chief Engineer, Clarence Canavan; Assistant to Truck Driver, Wm. F. S. Greene; Fire Police, Martin Leonard, Daniel Hannon, Arthur J. Kelly, John McDonald.

The linemen at the present time are as follows: Jos. Burns, Daniel Carey, Peter Collins, Jos. Halbe, Walter Kelly, Jos. Reddy, Thos. Scully, and Jos. Tomashitis.

The nozzle men at the present time are: Harry Butler, Wm. Bryne, Jackie Carey, John Groody, Wm.

Halbe, Michael Kennedy, Jos. Kennedy, Anthony Paluskey, Patrick Scully, John Scully and Peter Sherman.

CIVIC ORGANIZATIONS

In 1927 a local chapter of The International Club of Lions was organized. Wm. Horswood was elected President, and Ray Wayne, Secretary-Treasurer. The Club now consists of twelve members. Their present officers are: G. McAndrews, Pres.; and H. S. Rausch, Secy.-Treas. M. J. Bambrick, a member of the local chapter, is a regional character of the National Order. The meetings are held in the Goldenmoon.

The club is now concerned with a number of problems, one of them being eyesight conservation. They have already sent a few persons to the Pennsylvania Institution for Blind People, and also many persons to the Will's Eye Hospital at Phila. They have also secured glasses for persons who could not afford to buy them. They have sponsored many plays for charity. They led and sponsored the movement of the Girardville Centennial Celebration. They received permission from the town council to rope off streets during recess to protect children from autoists; also to rope off special streets for coasting during the winter. They began the movement for a playground in 1929 which resulted in collecting $3,600.

The Red Cross

To write the story of the Red Cross movement in Girardville is the same practically as writing a chapter of the life of Miss Elizabeth Brown of East Main St., because it was through her efforts that the Red Cross of the town became a reality.

About 17 years ago, Miss Brown was treating Mrs. T. L. Thomas, the president of the Red Cross Association, of Mahanoy City. To her Miss Brown paid one dollar for membership for herself and her friend, Miss Minnie Coombs, of Mahanoy City, who was also a nurse. Miss Brown returned to Girardville, and, with the aid of Miss Coombs, canvassed the town for Red Cross members. The result of their efforts resulted in a membership of one hundred. She informed Mrs. T. L. Thomas of the results. A chapter of the Red Cross was established at Girardville. The first meeting was held in the Girard Hose House. Upon Miss Brown's refusal to serve as president, the following officers were selected: Lawyer Maginnis, Pres.; Isaac Griffiths, Vice Pres.; Mrs. O. C. Thomas, Treas.; Marie Leonard, Secy.

The World War began. The newly organized chapter of the Red Cross set out to do its best. They established surgical rooms in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Bambrick. Here, under the direction of Miss Brown, bandages, first aid kits, and articles useful to a soldier were prepared. They also organized a canteen committee.

When the influenza epidemic was raging in the country, the work for the Red Cross became burdensome. Their tasks, however, were relieved by the assistance rendered by the nuns assigned by Cardinal Dougherty. The work of the nuns centered itself in the treatment of people confined in the Emergency Hospital in the Girard Hose Co. Building.

The depression of these last few years has caused the Red Cross to resume renewed activity. Supplies of flour and clothing supplied by Federal relief were distributed to needy families. This work has been

carried on in our community during the last few years.

Outstanding through all the years has been the name of the local founder, Miss Brown. She refused to accept any office in the organization, but this did not lessen her fervor; her activity always commanding the highest respect. In 1932, however, she accepted the Presidency of the local unit. In 1933, she resigned and was succeeded in her position by Mrs. Mary Harris, the present encumbent.

Prominent in the Red Cross work today are: Mrs. Mary Harris, Mrs. T. V. Buckley, and Miss Isabelle Bernotas.

FRATERNAL ORGANIZATIONS

The Schuylkill County Civic Club, of which the Italian American Club of Girardville is a branch, was organized for the purpose of carrying on Italian traditions and to organize the Italians of the county.

The first officers and organizers were: Frank Forte, Pres.; Frank Coriglano, Secy.; Peter Raneri, Treas.; Frank Paladine and Joseph Capparell, Trustees. The officers remain the same with the exception of Ales Centiole and Eugene Angellotti as Trustees. Columbus Day, Oct. 12, 1931, was sponsored by the Italian-American Club of Girardville.

Odd Fellows

Aqua Lodge 727 of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, was organized at Girardville in 1870, and was composed of 103 members. The first officers were: Noble Grand, Thomas Langer; Vice Grand, John Wadmayer; Recording Secy., H. B. Johnson; Assistant Secy., Mr. Billman; Treas., Mr. Pryce. The Lodge owns a cemetery of several acres outside the borough limits where its members and their families are entitled to interment. The assets of the Lodge amount to $2,400.

The present officers: Noble Grand, William Peel; Vice Grand, Charles Scheele; Secy., George Sipple, and Treas., Harvey Shofstall.

Among the oldest members are Mr. Kautter and Mr. Peel, both of West Main St. The meetings are held in the Girardville Hose Co. Number One Hall every Tuesday.

Order of Independent Americans

A state charter was granted to the Monument Council No. 847 Order of Independent Americans, on April 10, 1905. The names appearing as charter members are as follows: J. C. Donaldson, (deceased); Ira Donaldson, John Shane, (deceased); Chas. Price, S. W. Brown, (deceased); Chas. Wagner, (deceased); Jas. Taylor, Robt. J. Price, Evan Arnold, Benj. T. Price, Geo. Shane, Henry Metz, (deceased); George Webb, E. H. Miller (deceased); Geo. W. Price, Thos. Williams, (deceased); Elwood Tiley, Geo. Heywood, Sr., (deceased); Frank Michael, (deceased); Harry Lewis, Wm. Thomas, W. Moll, Chas. Kissinger, Walter Nattress, Wm. Green, (deceased); Louis Moll, (deceased); Anthony Wagner, Ang. Richelderfer, Wm. Reesmiller, Boyd Minnick, (deceased); John Moll, Sr., (deceased); Wm. Moyer, (deceased); Saml. Kreisher, (deceased); Geo. Kachael, (deceased); W. Harry Price, M. C. Cleaver.

While the charter only shows the names of 36 members, the membership reached approximately 200. The first officers were as follows:

Elwood Tiley, Councilor; W. Harry Price, Secy.; John Shane, Rec. Secy.; M. C. Cleaver, Treas.; Robt. J. Price, Trustee; Saml. Kreisher, Trustee; George Heywood, Sr., Trustee.

The oldest living member (in age) is Samuel Lorah. The highest peak in membership was 270. The present membership is 121.

During the World War this lodge had 14 members participate. The names that appear on the Roll of Honor are as follows:

George Strong, Alfred Davis, Robert Calbert, Raymond Toll, Benj. Green, German Ahrensfield, Alfred Williams, Chas. W. Price, Wm. Williams, Samuel Bradbury, Levi Gruber, Richard Webb, Geo. Heywood, Wm. Rusk. They all returned except Richard Webb.

The Sons Of Italy

The Sons of Italy Lodge has branches throughout the United States and has a membership of over a half-million. Members are accepted from all denominations, but they must be Italian. Before a person is accepted as a member he must have a good moral character and must not have a criminal record. If he is considered a radical, he will not be accepted.

The Girardville branch was organized on March 20, 1927. It is in the Penna. District, of which the Honorable Judge E. V. Allessandroni is at the head.

It is a fraternal and mutual organization. The first officers and organizers were:

Pres., Joseph Capparell; Vice-Pres., Frank Forte; Financial Secy., The Late Daniel DeRisco; Recording Secy., Frank Coriglano; Treas., Dominick D'Allesandro.

The present officers are the same with the exception of Joseph D'Allesandro, Financial Secretary.

When the lodge was first organized its members numbered 58; today they number 126.

St Joseph's T. A. B. Pioneer Corps

St. Joseph's T. A. B. Pioneer Corps celebrated its silver anniversary Nov. 15 and 16, 1914. This was an occasion long to be remembered. At that time a brief history of the Catholic Total Abstinence Societies of the St. Joseph's Parish was written and published by Lawyer E. J. Maginnis.

The present officers are: Sylvester Lally, Pres.; John P. Monaghan, Vice Pres.; John L. Carroll, Financial Secy.; Thomas Sullivan, Recording Secy.; and Patrick J. Grady, Treas. The membership today is approximately 75.

TOWN'S PATRIOTISM

Records of a complete story of Girardville's part in the Civil War are not available. The contacts with the War Department, Washington, D. C., The Adjutant General of the Commonwealth of Penna., and "The History of Patriotism in Schuylkill County" contributed little.

From the lips of an old resident, however, a few facts were gathered. The town's population at this time was approximately 100 people. Accordingly a large supply of soldiers was not obtainable. Yet approximately eight persons (actual residents) volunteered for service.

The first contingent from Girardville included: David Levan, Chas. Hower (a young boy of 17 years), Bill Klingerman and Thos. Williams, a mulatto.

They were accepted as members of the 7th Penna. Calvary, under the command of Major Thompson. They were driven to Pottsville to enlist by John Hower.

The Civil War History must be grouped into two divisions, "Pre-Residental" and "Post-Residential." A survey shows that the following persons fought in the Civil War and migrated to Girardville upon their

GIRARDVILLE

Last Remnant of the Civil War Veterans



In the picture above is pictured the last remnant of the Civil War Veterans of Girardville. This was taken in 1913 when the veterans assembled for a reunion. Those pictured above, reading from left to right, are as follows: Back Row—Albert Bordy, Frank Bensinger, John Butler, Adam Metz, Col. P. H. Monaghan. Front Row—Wm. Williard, Louis Biltz, Patrick Dolan and Wm. K. Moyer. Since that time, "Taps" have been sounded for all of them.

return. Their names are submitted because the town makes claim upon them.

The following list of names are those of men who volunteered their services: John Barron, Alex Bennie, Jas. Bennie, Albert Bordy, Thos. Burns, Jas. Brazil, John Buttler, John Burke, Martin Brennan, W. J. Carrol, John Maley, Jas. McGuire, John Malloy, Dennie Murphy, Patrick Murphy, James McGrew, Col. P. H. Monaghan, Frank McColough, Thos. Purcell, Mark Purcell, Michael Roach, Jas. Sweeney, Elias Wagner, Fred Witmayer, Patrick Whalen, Michael Thompson, William Timmins, Crawford Bennie, Private in Co. H, Forty-Eight Regiment; Franklin Bensinger, Sixth Corporal in Co. G, 129th Regiment; Andrew Arnold, Second Corporal in Co. E, 6th Regiment, Penna. Volunteers; John P. Brennan, Private in Co. E, Ninety-Sixth Regiment; John A. Brennan, Private, 6th Regiment.

Joshua Caul, John Duffy, Private in Seventh Penna. Calvary, Co. L; Patrick Dolan, Michael Delaney, Private in Co. K, Forty-Eighth Regiment; Jas. Durren, Jas. Edwards, A. Dennery, Adam Gilbert, Robert Green, Jos. Glick, Thos. Gwyther, Private 6th Regiment, Penna. Volunteers; Wm. Gwyther, Third Sergeant, 6th Regiment, Penna. Volunteers; Jas. Gorman, Malachi Gorman, David Hopkins, Patrick Haley, John Holzer, Wm. Hartnett, Thos. Joyce, Patrick Horan, Daniel Kehler, Walter Kinney, Harry Kohler, Jas. Kelly, Thomas Kelly, Thos. Lafferty, Adam Metz, Hiram Michael, Harry Miller.

Spanish-American War

The patriotism of Girardville readily asserted itself in the quarrel with Spain in 1898. The town was well represented in the militia during the Spanish-American War. The following persons were enrolled for the service of the nation:

Harry C. Barnhard, Elmer Britton, Hiram C. Bensinger, Wm. C. Brown, Richard L. Brown, Thos. Butler, Patrick J. Brennan, Michael H. Brennan, Edw. J. Cooper, Elmer E. C. Clark, Frank E. Carmichael, Martin E. Coyle, Jas. V. Conway, Wm. H. Dressler, Cornelius P. Dougherty, Alexander McDonaldson, Wm. E. Dando, Thos. Edwards, John H. Fogel, Wm. A. Feist, Frederick W. Cross, Benj. L. Green, Raymond G. Hoffman, Wm. Humes, Wm. L. Hammer, John A. Higgins, John J. Hambrey, Geo. W. Hassel, Wm. J. James, Wm. A. Jones, John C. Katz, Daniel Kauffman, Chas. C. Kissinger, Daniel U. Krieger, John J. Kennedy, Stephen Lindenmuth, Frank B. Long, Harry D. Livers, John J. Linney, John W. Lanyon, John H. Mayer, Wm. J. Morgans, Saml. T. Miller, Chas. J. Monaghan.

Jas. A. Gibbons, Michael F. Gaygan, Ferdinand Gibson, Anthony J. Gallagher, Harry C. Hoffman, Jas. Humes, Geo. H. Pitts, Frank B. Prosser, Wm. Perrong, Geo. H. Payne, Harry H. Phillips, Jehu Rogers, Edw. J. Rhine, Howard Richelderfer, John Todd, Terrance J. McCormick, John B. McCormick, John B. McCormick, Anthony F. McAndrew, Patrick McAndrew, Wm F. Monaghan, Ed. A. Nicholas, Walter Nattress, Thos. J. Reese, Reuben F. Schwartz, Wm. F. Shappell, Oscar Shappell, Robert Scot, Jos. P. Sexton, Albert G. Troutman.

Officers: Captain, Harry H. Danks; First Lieut., John F. Barnhard; Second Lieut., Wm. Leshman; First Sergeant, Chas. McGarvin; Corporals, Frank Johnson; Ephraim Davis,

Augustus W. Richelderfer, Daniel J. Scally, Leo Wandless, Louis A. Hopkins, Matthew Todd, Edward G. Davis, Wm. H. Reese, Chas. A. Pitts, Bernard H. Shappell, Isaac W. Green; Musicians, Thomas Davis, Pool Davis; Artificer, John Nosthide; Wagoner, Chas. Dresher; Company Clerk Corporal, Edw. G. Danks.

Though the casualties of the entire nation in this conflict were few, fate directed that Girardville should suffer. John Higgins, one of the first to be called to the defense of the colors, was afflicted with typhoid fever while in service, and died in the Medico-Chi Hospital, Phila., Pa.

One casualty is included. Michael Gaygon, as a result of active duty, submitted to the amputation of one of his limbs.

Time has had a greater effect on the ranks of the Spanish-American War Veterans than the War, itself, registered. The ranks of the veterans are beginning to display silvered-headed and slightly bent individuals. Time has also taken its toll. However, the members carry bravely on. The veterans still residing in town have organized in a last encampment. They have named the camp in honor of its War dead—"The John Higgins Post." Prominent in the organization today are—Chas. Dresher, George Pitts, Walter Nattress, Ephraim Davies, Michael Brennan, John Bames, Elmer Clarke, Thos. Coon, Jas. Conway, Thomas Davis, Wm. Davis, Wm. Dando, Aleck Donaldson, Owen Gaughan, John Keslinkuskie, Chas. Monaghan, Terrence McCormick, George Pitts, Michael Rowland, and Edward Ryan.

One of the outstanding events in the John Higgins Camp, today, is the direction of the Community Observance of Memorial Day. The exercises usually consist of a parade of a patriotic character and an address. Recent speakers on the program were—E. J. O'Donnell, G. Harold Watkins, Howard G. Stutzman, and W. J. Roberts.

The World War

When the United States entered the World War in 1918, and when the call for volunteers came, the town of Girardville sent approximately 298 men to the call of the Nation. The women of the town also responded by sending the following: Anna Heywood, Janette Rogers, Isabel F. Williams, Ruth Willard and Marie Coff, as nurses.

Nine men from town died in action or as the result of wounds. Nineteen men were injured, and 192 reached France.

The highest commissioned men from town was Wm. J. Monaghan, who attained the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. The first man to enlist was Allen R. Martin.

The following is a list of men who made the supreme sacrifice: *Private Eckert, Killed April 16, 1918; Private Mowrey, Killed April 19, 1918; Frank Coon, Died Oct. 9, 1918; Daniel V. Coon, Killed July 15, 1918; Harry Davis, Killed; David Gallager, Killed July 15, 1918; Jos. Ginley, Killed Sept. 30, 1918; Richard F. Webb, Killed Oct. 9, 1918; John P. Williams, Died Oct. 8, 1918.

A search of the records of Schuylkill County's participation in the war, reveals that Private Eckert, killed April 16, 1918, was registered as being from Girardville. This would give him the distinction of being the first man of the town to give his life for his country during the great conflict. However, no trace of the family of this person, nor any information as to whether

or not he actually resided here, can be found.

The local record of the American Legion Post credits Daniel V. Coon as being the first to die, on July 15, 1918.

The following is a list of the men who were sent to France or to camps for training: G. L. Adams*, H. J. Adams*, E. E. Ahrensfield*, Herman Ahrensfield*, (Wounded in France), Thos. Athow*, Harry Bambrick*, Tony Bann*, John Bann*, Aaron Bamer*, Michael Bardasmer*, G. E. Barnes*, (Wounded), A. J. Barrattet, Paul B. Barrow, John Baum, Simon Beravage, John Biddle, Chas. Bilskie, John Balinski*, George Boyle*, (Wounded), Victor Boyskir, Stephen Bracey, Jos. Bradulis, W. H. Brain, Jr.*, F. L. Brecker*, Frank Brennan*, Michael J. Brennan*, A. L. Brezzell, Buldu Garason, Garson Bulder, S. N. Burke*, J. J. Burns*, W. G. Bush*, (Wounded), Chas. Calvert, Robert Calvert*, Nicholas Candore, Tim Carden*, D. L. Carey, Edw. Carey*.

J. F. Carey, T. J. Carey, Martin Carroll*, Thos. Caughlin*, Peter Chapley, Jos. Chinofski, Vincent Ciociano*, Vincent Clark*, J. J. Coleman*, (Wounded) J. L. Coleman*, J. G. Cominskie*, J. A. Connor*, W. C. Connor*, Edw. Conway*, J. J. Coon*, (Wounded),

D. V. Coon*, (Killed), Frank Coon*, (Died), John Caughlin*, M. A. Coyle, J. A. Crane*, John Crarrage, H. J. Cress*, Philip Cress*, Daniel Curley*, J. L. Daley, S. J. Davendish*, Harry Davis, W. B. Davis.

J. J. Dee*, (Wounded), M. G. Dewey*, Nicholas Deogramo*, Vincent P. Dolan*, (Wounded), Thomas Dougherty*, John Counowico*, Downotovicz, Ralph Dragon*, Daniel J. Eagan*, P. J. Eagan, S. A. T. C., Pa., Eckert*, (Killed in Action), Earl W. Faust, P. N. G., E. F. Feeney*, J. J. Feeney*, Evan R. Tigley*, L. F. Finn*, W. J. Finn*, M. M. Fitzgerald*, J. J. Flutter*, A. J. Foy, P. N. G., J. Foy, G. D. Foy*, (wounded), George Frigona, Alfonso Fungarali, Joseph Fusko*, David Gallagher*, (killed), M. T. Gallagher*.

Jos. Gandino*, F. J. Gaughan*, Jos. Gaudino*, W. P. George*, M. B. Gibbons, J. W. Gillespie, M. P. Gillespie*, John L. Ginley*, Jos. L. Ginley*, (Killed), Allen J. Glick, J. J. Goff, J. R. Grady*, J. S. Granger*, F. H. Grant, Tony Grasso, Ben F. Green*, Louis Green*, Raymond Green*, Anthony Grif*, Anthony Goff*, Mark Groody, L. M. Gruber*, Chas. Grumm, Herbert E. Gwyther*, Peter H. Halbe, M. L. Halton*, Jas. Hannon*.

Nick Harbacwaski, Herbert Hendrickson, John Herman, G. Heywood*, M. L. Halton*, Jas. Hullihan*, D. S. Humes, D. J. Hussey*, John Jacobs*, W. M. Jeffrey*, Elmer Jones, Harry Jones*, John Jones*, Jas. Kasakitis* (wounded), Jose. Kasaitis, Jos. Keegan* (wounded), Frank L. Kennedy, J. L. Kenney, R. B. Klees*, H. S. Kohler*, Edw. Krick, Jose. Kunas*, Alex Lapnis*, Walter B. Larkin*, Clement J. Leahy, J. P. Long*, Jas. Love*, Francis J. Machese*.

W. F. Long*, Frank J. Machese*, R. G. Mack*, J. B. Maginnis, Chas. Mahoney*, Pasquale Mauganelli*, Guiseppo Marconello*, Allen R. Martin*, Thos. Martin, Anthony Martoski, Wm. Martoski, Gerald S. Maurer, Gerald J. McAndrew, Jos. McCormick*, John J. McDonald, Leo McDonald, Thos. P. McDonald*, Frank McIntyre*, Mike McKeone, Frank McLaughlin*, Frank D. McLaughlin*, Mart McLaughlin*, Thos. J. McLaughlin*, Chas. McNeil*, Wm. T. Mealy*, John F. Meyers*, Harry Miller, John J. Mills*.

Thos. F. Mills, J. J. Maldon, R. L. Moll*, J. J. Monoghan*, Jos. T.

Moran, John Moran, Frank Mosouskie*, Dr. D. G. Murphy*, Thos. Murray*, John Meyers*, Edw. G. Neary, Elmer Murton, John J. Nolan*, W. L. O'Brien*, John J. O'Donnell*, Frank J. Oswald, Jas. Oswald*, Jos. Peel, Nicola Pellegrino*, Frank Petrousky*, Tony Pezute, John J. Phillips, Edw. P. Platt*, Richard A. Platt*, Harry J. Portner*, Leon H. Portner*, Rudolph J. Portner*.

Fred Partz* (wounded), J. W. Powell*, Chas. W. Price*, Peter Pulakitis, Jas. F. Purcell*, John I. Purcell, R. S. Quinn, Peter Raineri*, Peter Raneri, Jos. Reddy*, F. J. Reith, Eugene Ross* (wounded), Salvatone Ross*, Samuel Ross* (wounded), Roland M. Rothermel*, Anthony Rauzis*, Wm. Rusk, John A. Ryan*, Frank J. Saluskie*, Francis J. Scanlon*, Francis J. Scanlon, Chas. Suichitano*, Vincent J. Scotty*, Wm. J. Scully, Edw. Seaner, Lewis Sebuskie, Steve Sebuskie*.

Edw. Segaritis*, Chas. Suzzehitan*, Anthony Seliokas*, Peter Selinsky*, Harvey Shofstall, Anthony Silickas, Peter Sopangee* (wounded), Paul Sparrow*, Walter E. Stackokis* (wounded), Walter Stakokis, Wm. A. Stiney, Geo. D. Strong, Elmer Strong, Kyran Sullivan, Edw. Sweeney, Giovanna Tarallo*, Joahano Tarallo*, Arthur H. Thomas*, Henry Thomas, J. J. Thompson*, F. V. Tierney, John Tierney, T. V. Tierney* (wounded), W. J. Tierney*, Elmer C. Toll*, Harry Toll (wounded).

Ray Toll, Dominick Torello*, Harry Travis, Paul Tricarhi, Elmer E. Troutman*, Wayne A Troutman* (wounded), John Urban*, Geo. E. Wagner, W. J. Wagner*, D. H. Watkins*, Richard Webb* (killed), Louis W. Weihl*, Clarence Weller, Harry Weller*, Frank Wenk*, Harry Wenk*, G. L. Wertz*, Jos. Whitcavage, Louis H. Wiehl, Alfred Williams*, Thos. W. Wood*, Jas. V. Woods, Thos. W. Woods*, Jacob Wolowitz*, Frank Yasemkus*, Chas. Zelenkas*, Creste Zanivis, Anthony Zien, Jas. Zubress*, Michael J. Zugda*.

* Indicates men who reached France.

RECREATIONAL AGENCIES

The Girard Opera House was built in 1890 and operated by a Stock Company, with E. C. Becker serving as President. Among the stockholders were Eberly, Glick, Griffiths and Tom Touhey. Harry Becker, son of E. C. Becker, was the manager.

The Stock Company proved a failure, the theatre being secured by the partnership of Heblick and Lafferty. Heblick's share was secured by Owen F. McNally. He later secured the entire ownership.

The theatre was originally intended for the purpose of staging shows presented by traveling stock companies. The average number of shows per week was three. Some companies performed two days, while others remained a longer time.

Early in 1900, when motion pictures first originated, it was much cheaper and more convenient to run a picture than to book a road show and the stock company passed with the coming of the movies. Mr. Hunt, who is now the owner of a chain of theatres in New Jersey, and resides in Ocean City, New Jersey, was the first manager to run motion pictures in the local theatre. He was followed by Mr. Lee Later E. C. Malarkey and Mr. McKeon formed the partnership and ran both motion pictures and road shows.

In 1916 the present manager Frank Hollister purchased the theatre and during his holding held many boxing matches, both professional and amateur. He also ran vaudeville as special attractions during picture shows, and also many plays given by towns people for benefits or otherwise. Four years ago, when talkies were introduced, he changed from silent to talking pictures.

In 1925 the citizens of Girardville discussed plans for building a community playground to which they might send their children for recreation. It was not until 1930 that actual construction was begun.

The Lions Club were the originators of the movement. The sum of $3600 was accumulated to pay for the filling and leveling of the ground, and to pay for the equipment. The plot, situated on the east end of Girardville, was leased by the Lions Club from the Girard Estate.

The task was too great for such a small organization so another organization called the "Community Playground Association" was formed. It was composed of the members of the "Lions Club" and other prominent people of the town. The association still exists under the same name. Its officers for the current year are: Pres., Wm. Scheele; Vice Pres., Gerald McAndrews; Secy., Frank Hill; Treas., Leon Nestor. Frank Hill and Leon Nestor served on the dedication committee.

The playground was completed in May, 1930, and its formal dedication was May 30, Memorial Day The schools of Girardville, both parochial and public, played an important part.

The speaker for the day was Dave Perry, an attorney of Altoona, Pa., who is also the State Governor of the Lions Club. The children now use it daily for their recreation. It is also used frequently by the High School pupils for health activities.

The Memorable Fires

On Nov. 19, 1914, shortly after midnight pedestrians passing the corner of William and Main Sts., saw flames emerging from the basement of the Kilker property on the corner. The house was occupied by John Kalkis, the proprietor of a saloon.

Within 3 hours, the fire left seventeen families homeless. The Girardville fire company was unable to check it, due to the lack of chemicals among their equipment. All water lines were frozen and the creek water had to be used. With the aid of the Mahanoy City, Gilberton, Ashland, Wm. Penn, Frackville and Shenandoah fire departments, the fire was controlled but not before it had destroyed all but four buildings in the square.

Next to the Kilker property was a grocery store owned by the Chicalo Bros., and next to this, a grocery store owned by Eugene Picalo. The house on William St., owned by M. A. Kilker and occupied by Victor Dorsey, was destroyed. On Main St., the fourth building destroyed was a grocery store and residence owned by Daniel Puddes. Next to this the property of Tom Brain, occupied by Tom Dougherty's shoe store and residence, was in ruins. The properties of the Ashland Brewing Co., occupied by Emanuel Pancheri; Miss Sadie Gavin, occupied by the grocery store of Michael Brennan, and Mutual Realty Co. of Shenandoah, occupied by the saloon of Pius Macokas, were destroyed.

As a possible means of checking the fire, the home occupied by Ma-

cokas was dynamited. The fire spread rapidly to the adjoining building owned and occupied by E. C. Malarkey, a dealer in pianos. A second attempt was made to check the fire by dynamiting the property of the Ashland Brewing Co., occupied by Jos. Yozaitis, but to no avail. The fire continued in its path destroying the saloon and restaurant of Martin E. Moran and the grocery and confectionery store of Mrs. Catherine Gillespi-Devitt. When the fire reached Heckert's bakery shop, it was brought under control. The Heckert property was slightly damaged by smoke and water.

On the south side of the street, Kleckner's drug store, Mrs Sarah Bracey's millinery store, Chas. Seccatano's shoe making shop, the residence of Ed. Maginnis, Kehler's meat market, J. P. Mattack's carpet store, E. A. Buckley's residence, J. Wandlass' residence, Lance Jones's residence, Charles Barnhard's residence, Geo. Cress' cigar store, Dr. W. L. Birmingham's dental parlors and the home of Mrs. Raymond Land, were damaged from the heat of the flames and hot embers which were blown about by the wind.

The body of Stiney Panalaiter, a Lithuanian, was found among the ruins by Jas. Kehler. He was in one of the homes which were dynamited and was hardly recognizable when found.

Harry Coleman, an actor, of the Francis Stock Company, which was playing at the Opera House at the time of the fire, sold newspapers to prominent townspeople, receiving contributions for each paper. This in turn was given for the relief of fire-sufferers.

The lack of chemicals among the fire equipment was a great lesson to the Girardville Fire Department.

On St. Valentine's Day, Feb. 14, 1917, the residents of Girardville witnessed another most disastrous fire. At the noon hour, a fire began in the home of Sol Kleckner, located on the north side of Main Street, between Line and William Sts., and spread rapidly to the adjoining building.

The day was cold and windy. All water pipes were frozen, and creek water had to be used. Before the water could be obtained the fire was beyond control of the Girardville Fire Department.

The approximate loss of property was $150,000. The properties destroyed were: Richard Purnell's residence and Clothing Store; Frank Hill's hardware store and residence; the residence and office of M. A. Kilker; the Kilker property occupied by the Kleckner family, and the grocery store of Geo. Nattress; the Fletcher estate occupied by Mrs. Chas. Granger; the Griffith property occupied by John Foy, the Griffith Hardware store and residence; the Ranger Hose Co.; the Reith property occupied by Matt Dalan; the Reith residence; the Wendell estates occupied by Chas. Heine; Mrs. Julius Horan, and Mrs. Jacob Miller.

The home of J. W. Strong was slightly damaged by smoke and water.

The town has been taught two expensive lessons by these disastrous fires. Prominent town men, realizing the necessity of chemicals in fighting fires donated large sums of money to the fire department for the purchase of proper equipment.

On Feb. 27, 1929, about 3 o'clock a. m., a fire was discovered in the restaurant of John Mandate, located on the south side of Main St.,

between William and John Sts. Several neighbors broke into the building to warn Mrs. Jas. Malarkey, the owner of the property, who lived in the apartment above the restaurant.

The fire was spread rapidly by cold winds to the adjoining building owned by Terry Ginley. The drug store of Mr. Ginley was an easy prey to the fire. Chemicals in the drug store caused it to spread more rapidly to the corner building occupied by Mr. Clarke. After a period of several hours the flames were combatted successfully. In the short time the fire had destroyed property estimated at approximately $70,000. The property of Mr. Clarke occupied by the Clarke family, a shoe repair shop owned by Mr. Taneri, the property of Terry Ginley, occupied by the Ginley family and drug store, and the property occupied by the Malarkey family, and the restaurant owned by John Mandate were completely destroyed by the fire. The home of Frank Carden and the home of Joe Celeste were damaged by smoke and water.

After several investigations, it became known that the fire was of incendiary origin with the intention of collecting insurance. A local man was arrested and held for trial. He was found guilty and sentenced to a period of imprisonment.

Influenza Epidemic

An epidemic of influenza swept over Girardville the latter part of July, 1918. At first there were a few scattered cases, which gradually increased to approximately 4500 cases in and about the vicinity of Girardville. The disease became so severe that extreme measures of precaution were taken to prevent its rapid spread. It was nothing unusual to find entire families stricken with this malady. One can readily realize the task confronting the local physicians, Dr. T. V. Buckley and Dr. J. F. Bryson. These men worked tirelessly in their efforts to combat the disease. The United States Government sent a staff of Army Doctors to the town to aid the local doctors. An emergency hospital was stationed at the Girard Hose House, supervised by the Sisters of Charity.

The morticians of town, the Reading Company, and the Lehigh Coal Company furnished their ambulances, while individual residents furnished trucks and carts to transport the people from their homes to the emergency hospital. Some of the young ladies of town volunteered to help in the treatment of the patients. Miss Mary Butler and Mrs. John Eye, of Girardville volunteered to do the washing of the bed-clothes, towels, and other articles which were used in the hospital.

Another phase in the prevention of the spread of the disease was the closing of the public schools, theatres, saloons, and all public buildings where people might congregate. This was undertaken by the members of the Board of Health, of Girardville, cooperating with federal authorities.

The death rate according to Dr. T. V. Buckley, was about 5% of those infected.

Centennial Celebration

The celebration of the 100th anniversary of Girardville was probably the greatest demonstration of a civic nature ever witnessed in the town. It was observed Sept. 25 to Sept. 29, 1932.

The Executive Committee was composed of Wm. A. Scheele, Pres.;

Jos. Capparell, Vice Pres.; H. S. Rausch, Secy.; Dr. Wm. B. Carey, Treas.; Thos. Kelshaw, Wm. Brain, Wm. Horswood, Frank Palladine, Frank Hill, Gerald McAndrew, Martin Bambrick, Leon Nestor, Webster Heine and Thos. Sullivan. Others who served this committee in an official capacity were: Martin Moran, Geo. Ayres, Jos. Whitley, Daniel Hinkle, Harry Newhouser, Earl Fetter, Elmer Grant, John Peel, Russell Davies, Walter Sharako, Ray Delbridge, and Charles Green.

The Baby Parade Committee was composed of Mrs. W. G. Payne, Mrs. T. V. Buckley, Mrs. Peter Raneri, Mrs. Daniel Reese, Miss Martha Capparell, Miss Elmira Scheele, Mrs. Wm. H. Brain, Mrs. A. P. Murray, Mrs. Martin Bambrick, Miss Blanche Wychunas, Miss Marie Leonhardt, Miss Liza Brown, Miss Marion Kilker, Miss Annie Morris, Mrs. M. O. Kelshaw, and Miss Jean Howells.

The Program for the week was: Monday, Monster Military Parade; Tuesday, 3:30—"G. H. S. 'Blue Aces'"; 7:30, School Parade; Wednesday, 7:30 — Fireman's Parade; Thursday, 2:30—Baby Parade; 7:30—Gala Mummer's Parade.

SPORTS IN GIRARDVILLE

(The sketch of the sports in Girardville was compiled by Edw. M. Velelis.)

The first basketball team to represent Girardville was a team organized in the winter of 1900 under the name of Company F, 8th Regiment. It was composed of Wm. Reese, captain and forward; George Pitts, forward; Gus Richelderfer, center; Ray Kachel, guard; Dave Lavelle, guard; Frank Todd, guard; and Dr. Barnhardt, substitute and manager. Its colors were orange and blue.

The team played its games in the Armory Hall on the site of the new St. Vincent de Paul Church.

In its first season of 1900-01, the team played a total of 22 games, winning all but one. Its only defeat was at the hands of the Professional Champions of Pennsylvania, the Quaker City Five of Phila., by a close score of 14-21. Another of its outstanding games was its victory over the University of Pennsylvania. The score of this game was 14-7. Other teams that met defeat at the hands of the Company F, 8th Regiment were Shenandoah Professionals, which represented both Shenandoah and Mahanoy City, and the Lehigh Central Office team of Lost Creek.

For the season of 1901-02, its captain was Geo. Pitts. It added two new players, Harry Reese and Herb Widenmyer, and dropped Gus Richelderfer. It defeated Wilkes-Barre and Danville.

In 1901-02 another basketball team, known as the Girardville Athletics, was organized. This team was composed of Will Harris, present school director, L. Gillespie, Clayton Brown, J. Jones, Harry Reese, and Arthur Brown. It was handled by Gus Richelderfer and Harry Portz.

Among the teams played by this team was the Quaker City Five of Phila. During a game at Ashland, Will Harris received a broken shoulder bone, and a benefit game was arranged with the Quaker City team. With this game came the first appearance in this region of Harry Hough, one of the greatest players the game has known.

In 1903-04 another team was organized. Its members were: Joe Williams, Frank Todd, George Nattress, Tom Kenny, and Ray Neis-

wender. Geo. Davis was the manager.

Basketball came to an abrupt end when the Armory Hall was purchased by the St. Vincent Parish to be used as a church, in 1906.

The new St. Vincent Church building was completed in 1925 and the structure contained an auditorium adapted to the playing of basketball.

The first team to represent Girardville on the new floor was the St. Vincent Catholic Club, which was composed of members of the parish.

In 1926 another team, under the leadership of Webster Heine, was organized. This team was made up of home boys. Some of the players were: Harry Malester, Tom Beddow, Danny Calvert, Ray Davendish, Earl Brown, Bill Clews, John Koch, and Clyde Jones. Later Mr. Heine gave up the venture and "Battler" Delago took over the team and added Doolin, of Ashland, to the team and released a few of the players of the former team. The team assumed the name of "Professionals."

Before half the season was over the hall was too small to accommodate the crowds that thronged to the games.

In this same year the "Girardville Professionals" enjoyed its most successful season. At the end of the season this team played for the championship of both the North and South of Schuylkill County. Its opponent was a team composed of the famous "Caton Brothers" of Frackville. Frackville emerged the victor and champions after two games but both games went into extra periods in order to decide the issue. The Girardville team was as follows: Danny Calvert, Ray Davendish, Harry Malester, Girard Stack, Tommy Doolin, Ashland, and John Koch. The team was managed by "Battler" Delago and Raymond Stack. Its coach was Newt Griffiths.

In 1927 three teams represented the town. They were the Professionals, High School, and St. Vincents. The following year the Professionals disbanded.

After the disbanding of the Professionals, St. Vincents quintet reached its height. It was strengthened materially by the signing of former high school stars or graduates. The outstanding performers now are: Joe "Butch" Morris, Joe Mickalonis, Joe Lokitis, Joe Krick, John Robitis, and Newt Griffiths, who is also coach. Other players are Simmy, Bann, O'Shura, and the Lewullis Brothers.

During the 1933-34 season the St. Vincents associated themselves with the North Anthracite League. The teams competing in this league are Shamokin Big Five, St. Anthonys of Brady, St. Marys of Marion Heights, Dramatics of Shamokin, Natalie Buffaloes, and St. Vincents. Up to this writing, the St. Vincents have met with unparalleled success. They have added two out of town players, Walter Supernavage and Joe Matulaitis, both of Mahanoy City.

In 1933 an attempt to form a city league failed.

High School Basketball History

From 1921 until 1926 Girardville High School used Wasaitis Hall in Frackville as its home hall. In 1926, it began its first season at home. In 1929, they associated themselves with the Schuylkill County Interscholastic Athletic League. During the years of its competition it finished in the first division every year, with one ex-

ception. In 1931 the Girardville High School had its greatest season, missing championship honors by a single game.

Until 1925, the girls of Girardville High School participated in no sports whatever. October, 1925 the first girls' basketball team was organized and coached by Miss Marion Kilker. The first practices were held on a court behind St. Joseph's Church. Later, in 1926, they moved to St. Vincent's Hall. The girls' first basketball season was a highly successful one. Their first victory was registered at Frackville. In honor of this victory, a banquet was held at the Girard Hose Hall. Both the boys' and girls' teams attended the banquet.

The members of this team were as follows: Elsie Nattress, forward; Anna Gilinskas, forward; Helen Mervine, side center; Helen Kellmer, center; Eva Purnell, guard; and Edith Dwyer, guard. The substitutes were Eleanor Kilker, Mae Kelly, Marion Purcell and Mildred Fetterman.

The girls' teams have had three coaches. The first coach was Miss Marion C. Kilker, who held the position for its first three seasons; and W. J. Roberts, present mentor of the "Blue Aces," coached the teams for the next four seasons. In 1932-33, Miss Mae Kelly took over the coaching reigns and is producing highly successful teams. Incidentally Miss Mae Kelly was a member of the first girls' team.

Football

Girardville's first football team was organized in 1897. The team was as follows: Charley Douck, center; Tommy Edwards, guard; Leo Wandlass, tackle; Cly Barnhardt, quarterback; Chas. Short, tackle; Eddie Danks, guard; Ray Kachel, guard; Jos. Monoghan, captain and halfback; George Pitts, quarterback and guard; Tom Brennan, end; Charley Wandlass, substitute; Ed. Davis, fullback; Jas. Birmingham, tackle; Dave Lavelle, halfback, and Geo. Brewer, halfback. Others connected with this team were Geo. Barnhardt, both as a substitute and manager, and Elmer Ahrensfield as mascot.

The team was broken up during the Spanish-American War. Seven of this band of pioneer football players of Girardville served in the war. After the war they returned and proceeded to organize the town's first basketball team.

The football games of this first team were played on an entirely different athletic field than is now in use. The gridiron they used was grass covered and was located on the extreme east end of town. A culm bank now covers it.

In 1923 a football team was organized for the purpose of securing money for charity. This team engaged in many benefit games. Some of the outstanding players were: B. Trusky, G. Trusky, P. Morris, B. Morris, A. Morris, H. Purnell, R. Kautter, B. McDonald, R. Crane, T. Crane, Earl Speice, B. Laconis, G. Sigaritis, W. Sweeney, B. Kohler, E. Gruber, B. Carey and P. Savage.

In 1924, Girardville was represented on the gridiron by an exceptional team. They lost only one game. This was to Curley's Indians of Mahanoy City. The team was capably managed by Webster Heine. The players were: Clyde Jones, B. Lewullis, T. Capparell, T. Brown, J. Delago, J. Monoghan, A. Pancheri, T. Beddow, D. Calvert, E. Brown, Chas. Jones, C. Pitts, G. Trusky, T. Coyle, J. Brennan, G. Murphy, J. Dougherty, E. Speice, W. Toll, P. Morris and H. Purnell.

In 1925-26-27 the same team again represented Girardville. Webster Heine still held the managerial reigns. The team also added J. Siminonis, H. Kelly, J. Carey, J. Kelly and E. Purcell, as additional players.

In 1928, the Girardville A. A. gave Girardville its first football championship. This was the pennant of the Tri-County League. This league was composed of Mt. Carmel, Marion Heights, Centralia, Ashland, Glovers Hill, Tamaqua, Shamokin and Girardville. Despite being the lightest team in the league, the team was undefeated and unscored upon in seven games, winning 3, losing 0, and tying the remaining games. The team clinched the championship when it tied Tamaqua in its last game. The team was composed of almost the same players as those of former years. The players were: A. Pancheri, H. Kelly, J. Kelly, P. August, J. Dougherty, J. Fitzpatrick, T. Coyle, T. Beddow, J. Monaghan, R. Kautter, C. Foy, Clyde Jones, Chick Jones, H. Purnell, D. Calvert, J. Siminonis, J. Carey, W. Toll and G. Murphy. The team was managed by a former team-mate, Cassimer "Battler" Delago, and was known as the Girardville Bears.

In 1929, under Delago's leadership, they entered the faster and more powerful Anthracite League. Among the top-notch teams were the Shenandoah Presidents, Mahanoy City, Gilberton, Pottsville and Coaldale. Its most remarkable achievements were its victory over Pottsville and a tie game with Gilberton played at Frackville.

High School Football

In the fall of 1930, a "sand-lot football game" led to the formation of the first regularly organized and recognized H. S. football team. Two teams from the school participated in this game and they became so enthused with the possibilities of a regular high school team that they presented themselves to the athletic director, W. J. Roberts, and made their request known.

In the space of 10 days, Roberts had his "Blue Aces" ready for action. Their first opponent was Pt. Carbon H. S. The result of the contest was Girardville H. S. 50; Pt. Carbon H. S. 0. Seven more contests were scheduled. Out of the eight contests the record of "The Blue Aces" was 3 wins, 2 losses, and 3 ties. The outstanding performances of this team was a scoreless tie played with Pottsville Catholic H. S. on Thanksgiving Day.

Girardville High "Blue Aces" played a conference team in the second year of competition. This contest was with Coal Twp. H. S., Nov. 18, and was played under "flood-lights." Trailing 13-0 at the half, the "Blue Aces" displayed a marvelous passing attack to bring the score to 13-12. In this scoring spree "The Blue Aces" completed 18 out of 22 passes.

The great performance of 1932 was the defeat of Pottsville Catholic H. S., Catholic H. S. Champions of Eastern Pennsylvania.

High School Track History

Organized track participation was introduced into the activities of High School by W. J. Roberts, athletic director. On May 30, 1931, the first annual Track Meet was presented to the public.

Numbered among the entrants were: Shenandoah H. S., Ashland H. S., Frackville H. S., Pinegrove H. S., Delano H. S., St. Joseph's H. S. (Girardville) and Girardville H. S. Shenandoah H. S. won this meet

after being challenged in every event by Frackville and Pinegrove H. S. The host school, Girardville, finished in fourth place. Prior to this meet, however, Girardville H. S. had made its debut by joining in a County-Wide Meet at the Schuylkill County Fair Grounds. They placed fifth in the county in Class B Group.

In 1932, the Memorial Day Meet was in the nature of an experiment and was entirely entra-mural in character. The Sophomore Class was recognized as "Champions."

In 1933 the return of Inter-School participation was supported. Blythe and Gilberton H. S. accepted invitations to join in participation. The outcome was Girardville, first place; Blythe, second place, and Gilberton, third.

A feature of this meet was a dual meet between "The H. S. Ginger Girls of Girardville" and the "Betty Blythes." The Ginger Girls were victorious.

Ring Career of Geo. Weyman

George Weyman began his boxing career Nov. 14, 1910. His first regular ring encounter on Nov. 14, 1910, under the management of Joe Page, was in the Post G. A. R. Hall, Mt. Carmel, Pa. His opponent was Young Bockas, of Springfield, Pa. Young Weyman (this was his ring title) won the decision after six rounds of fighting.

May 30, 1915, Young Weyman entered the ring to secure the first real success of his career—The Featherweight Championship of the Coal Region. Weyman received this title by defeating Battling Mills, of Mahanoy City, in a ten round wind-up.

A resume of his records shows that he engaged in approximately 200 fights, 150 of which were victories, and 25 were draws. He has 15 K. O.'s to his credit.

One of the greatest achievements was the earning of a draw in a battle with the Featherweight Champion of the world, Frankie Brown of New York .

Cassimir Delago

Cassimir Delago began his boxing career in 1917, at the age of 16. In the ring, he was known as "Battling Joe Reddy."

In 1924, Reddy was recognized as Welterweight Champion of the Coal Region. He held this honor for two years, 1924-1925.

In 1929, Reddy retired but not for long. He made a comeback and in his only bout defeated Johnny Zeno, of Mt. Carmel, in eight rounds. He then retired from active boxing. In 1931 he answered the call of the ring and became a referee and up to the writing he is still active. He referees bouts at Charlton Hall, Pottsville.

Pioneers of Past and Present

The pioneers, past and present, include the names of many prominent families in Girardville.

Miss Elizabeth Brown, the daughter of Geo. and Elizabeth Brown, was born July 25, 1860, in Sommershire, England. When she was five years old, her parents came to America and took up their residence at Ashland.

Her residence in Girardville, began when she was 13 years of age. She turned her attention to the teaching of music but after a few years in this field, she discontinued her work and enrolled at the Penn-

sylvania Orthopedic Institute, where after several years study, on May 17, 1905, she was graduated as a Medical Masseuse. She followed this profession for 22 years. Shortly after her graduation she secured a partnership in a dry goods business with Miss Minnie Coombs. She divided her attention to her profession with this business for a period of 17 years. In 1917, she originated the Red Cross in Girardville. In 1932 she became the vice-president of the Relief Board. Miss Brown has been a member of the Methodist Church and choir for the last 50 years.

Dr. J. F. Bryson

Dr. J. F. Bryson was born in Watsontown, Northumberland County, Penna., May 7, 1870. He received his first education in a country school and furthered his education at Lock Haven State Teachers College and Jefferson Medical College, where he graduated as an M. D.

Dr. Bryson came to Girardville January 12, 1904. His first office was in Howells Hotel. After a short time he moved into the McDonald building, where Dr. Collins had maintained offices. From there he moved to his present location.

He is an interested worker in all projects that are intended to benefit the town. He has been directly connected with efforts to improve the health of the school children by innoculation as a preventive of diphtheria. He also donates his services to the High School athletic teams.

Dr. T. V. Buckley

Dr. T. V. Buckley, was born in Girardville in 1885. He received his early education in the Girardville and Mahanoy Twp. schools, graduating from Girardville High School in 1902. He entered Villa Nova College, where he studied for two years prior to entering Medico Chi College where he graduated in 1910, after which he spent one year's interneship at the Medico Chi Hospital. In 1912, he began his work as a doctor in Girardville.

In 1918, he proved himself one of the outstanding doctors who were at that time trying to combat the flu epidemic.

Dr. Wm. B. Carey, D. D. S.

Dr. Wm. B. Carey, was born April 25, 1905. He was educated in the Girardville Public Schools. Following graduation from High School in 1924, he entered Temple University Dental School, Phila. graduating in 1928.

He shares numerous affiliations, religious, fraternal, civic and social. His civic work, however, is most closely connected with The Lions Club and the District Board of Control, B. S. A.

Dr. Carey has been an earnest and sincere worker for the youth of Girardville.

Rev. Isaac Davies

Rev. Isaac Davies was born Sept. 13, 1891, in Miners Mills, Penna. He attended the Public School at Plains, Penna., and later entered Wyoming Seminary, at Kingston, after finishing the course at Wyoming Seminary, he entered Mt. Herman Seminary, Mt. Herman, Mass. He also became associated with Oscalusa University of Theology, Fall River, Mass., and Milton University, Baltimore, Md.

He began his ministerial career in 1916, being ordained in 1920.

In May 1925, he took up his residence at Girardville. From the beginning he has taken a keen and active interest both in civic and social

affairs of the community. He manifests a great interest in young people. He is credited with securing the first relief funds for Girardville, being President of the local relief board.

Charles (Chick) Fullis

Chas. Phillip Fullis, better known to his public as "Chick," was born in Girardville in 1904. He attended school in Girardville but was forced to leave at an early age to secure employment. He found employment at McTurk's Colliery.

He made his baseball debut with the Old Girardville Cubs. In 1927 the Giants bought "Chick" and "farmed" him in mid-season to Toledo. He was recalled to the Giants in 1929, where he remained until 1933 when he was purchased by the Phila. Club of the National League. His recreation was baseball. He devoted most of his spare time to sport and is now prominent in major league baseball.

William Halton

Wm. Halton, President of the local Board of Education, was born in Raven Run, Nov. 16, 1879. His school education ended in the fifth grade, when he was compelled to leave school and go to work. He associated himself with the mining industry at that time and still maintains that connection.

Although his family did not move to Girardville until 1910, he readily adapted himself to the new environment. He was elected to the Board of Education and he was later elected President of the Board, a position he still retains. His regime has been one of great development in public school work.

W. R. Heine

Webster R. Heine was born in Orwigsburg, in 1895. In 1899, the family moved to Girardville. Mr. Heine gained his education in the public schools of this borough.

In 1914, he went into partnership with his father, Chas. H. Heine, manufacturing underwear. At the present time Mr. Heine is at the head of the Girardville Knitting Mills, located at Second and Ogden Sts.

Thomas Kelly

Thos. Kelly was born on August 13, 1880, in West Mahanoy Twp., in the section known as Colorado. He moved to Girardville in 1907.

Mr. Kelly is a great sportsman. In 1912-13 he was manager of a champion baseball team, which represented his locality in the now extinct Schuylkill Valley League. He was the leader in the movement to organize an athletic association among the sports and business men of Girardville, and was elected president of this group.

Mr. Kelly was also instrumental in the installation of the present fire siren, and at present, is fire director of the Girard Hose Co. No. 1.

Thomas Kelshaw

Thos. Kelshaw was born in North England, on April 27, 1870.

Previous to his residence in Girardville, Mr. Kelshaw resided in Hazleton, Penna. He was very active in the Methodist Episcopal Church, and also took an active part in civic affairs, serving as a member of the chamber of commerce from 1913 to 1916.

Jan. 1, 1919, Mr. Kelshaw took up his residence in Girardville, when he became Superintendent of the Girard Estate, which position he still retains.

Although his education has been limited, having received only two years and two months of an educa-

tion between the years eight and ten, in Corthan, Engand, Victoria, South Wales, and St. Clair, he has achieved success in his chosen field. At an early age he became a miner and worked at this occupation for a few years. Later he worked in New Jersey.

Previous to the position he now holds, he had been employed as shipping clerk and postmaster in Silverbrook, mining engineer for Mill Creek Coal Co. and also for seven years was mining engineer for Cox Estate, Hazleton.

Mr. Kelshaw has always taken a keen interest in civic affairs. He is a member of the Methodist Church of Girardville, and Vice President of the Victory Bank and Trust Service Organization, was first president of the Girardville Relief Board and one of the leading factors in obtaining relief for the American Legion. During the construction of the playground, he took an active part, also serving as a member of the committee. He served on the Bi-Centennial Committees, and wrote the history of Girardville at that time.

E. C. Malarkey

E. C. Malarkey was born in Rappahannock, May 5, 1878. His school education was limited. At the age of eleven he began to work at a local colliery and continued to work in and about the mines until he was 18.

After working one year as a salesman for the Loeper Jewelry Store of Ashland, he entered the insurance business and at the age of 24, started in the piano and general music business.

He continued in this business for twenty-eight years, recently discontinuing his business operations.

Mr. Malarkey is well-known for his wit and musical ability. He produced and acted in many plays for various benefits in the community. At present, he is employed by the Home Loan Association.

Herbert S. Rausch

Herbert S. Rausch was born in 1886, near Hamburg, Penna. He was graduated from K. S. N. S., Kutztown, and Susquehanna University, Selinsgrove. He also completed work at Lehigh University and the University of Pennsylvania. He received the degrees of Pd. B.; B. S.; A. M.

His scholastic and professional work included: class-room teacher, ward principal, head of science department in larger unit high school, high school principal in different communities in Pennsylvania, Superintendent of Schools at Lewes, Delaware, and for the past thirteen years Supervising Principal of the Schools of Girardville.

During the war, Mr. Rausch was Supervisor of Community War Gardens, while at the head of the science department in the Perkasie High School.

He was secretary for Girardville Centennial Celebration and for the past few years, President of District Committee of Boy Scouts. He is a member of leading fraternities. He always closely identified himself with community and service work wherever he lived, and in the past few years has been Secretary of the Lions Club of Girardville.

John Blass

John Blass was born June 4, 1858, in Germantown, Columbia County, Penna., where he resided for ten years.

In 1868 the Blass family moved to Girardville, which was then a part of Butler Township, Schuylkill County. Here Mr. Blass attended school at the Rappahannock, and

worshipped at the Union religious services held in the White School Building. Later the Methodist Episcopal Church was organized, and he became a member of the Official Board, serving in this capacity for 45 years.

Mr. Blass has taught a class in the Methodist Sunday School for forty-nine years. On June 4, 1889, John Blass and Miss Selina Webb were married in the Methodist Episcopal Parsonage by Rev. Henry White. This marriage was blessed by two daughters, Florence and Mabel.

Mr. Blass associated himself with the P. O. S. of A. and at the present time has the distinction of being the oldest living member. He also served his community as a member of the school board.

Albert Bordy

Albert Bordy was born March 13, 1843. Born eleven years after the founding of the town, he constituted one of the group referred to as "early settlers." The most interesting episodes of his life, however, are associated with Civil War history.

In the year 1861, when 18 years of age, he enlisted in the United States Cavalry, where he served three years in Company H. 6th Regiment. During the Battle of Malvern Hill, in August of the next year, 1862, he was wounded, taken prisoner, and incarcerated in Libby Prison. He was again wounded during the battle of Gettysburg, July 3, 1863. He was again taken prisoner and transferred to Belle Island and Libby Prison.

During his time of service he participated in the Battles of Williamsburg, Hanover Court House, Hattersville, Black Church, Mechanicsville, Malvern Hill. Fredericksburg, Beverly Ford, Middleburg, Upperville, Fairfield, Gettysburg.

He also took part in General Stoneman's Raid.

On Jan. 30, 1930, he passed away at his home in Girardville.

Jonathan Faust

This sketch of the life and character of Jonathan Faust, was told by relatives and friends.

Mr. Faust was born a genius master builder, a rare mechanic. He was one of the most successful business men of his day, a shrewd, kind and sympathetic person to meet in the affairs of every day life.

His motto was: "Treat everyone fairly." When he was young, he had a longing to be on the water. He followed boating on the canal and was very good in navigating a boat. Besides his navigating and mechanical knowledge, he had wonderful talent for music and played the violin very well.

In 1836, he occupied a log house, and conducted a boarding house in Mahanoy City, at the site of the old Mansion House, corner of Main and Centre Sts. In 1850, he settled in Ashland. He resided on Main St., where he was postmaster and conducted a store. In 1857 he settled in Gordon. Here he erected a building and ran a hotel and boarding house. He also had charge of the Post Office.

In 1862 he settled in the town of Girardville. He built a large dwelling house on the present site of the Walsh place. This building he used as a store and residence. He was in business here during a big coal strike. He was kind and helped many needy families who otherwise would have suffered greatly. He lost thousands of dollars in that way. Notwithstanding the loss, in

1868 he sold his buisness and moved back to Gordon, where he lived a quiet life the few remaining years of his active days. When he passed away many people mourned the loss of a true friend. He is buried in Fountain Springs Cemetery.

John Hower

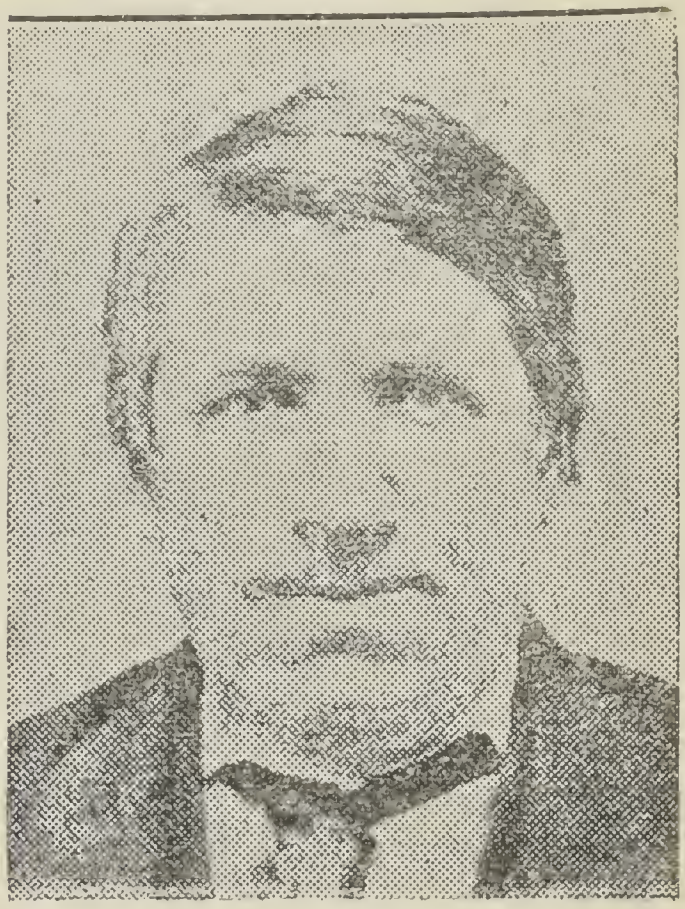
William Hower, of Wm. Penn, now 78 years of age, physically strong and unusually alert mentally, seated in his favorite chair, amid the familiar surroundings of his modest home, delightfully revealed the story of the life of his illustrious father, John Hower.

John Hower is the pioneer settler of Girardville. He was born, the son of Solomon Hower, (Sept. 11, 1794, Catawissa Twp.) and Mary Rhoades Hower (May 24, 1792, Jugland Twp., Chester County), Sept. 25, 1817, in Catawissa Twp., Columbia County.

Being of an industrious and adventurous spirit, characteristic of the trail-blazer, he migrated to the wild, mountainous and picturesque territory, designated on the map as Girardville, in 1841.

He acquired the rights, by lease from the Girard Estate, for the valuable, neighboring timber tracts. In addition to this he also rented The Girard House.

He influenced, by his belief in the future of the town, many of his friends to accompany him. The friends who joined with him in locating in Girardville were: Sol Shappell, Dan Levan, Hicks Eichler and Wm. Frenstaumacher. There were two houses, in addition to the Girard Mansion, standing in the town, at this time. However, arrangement was made whereby the housing facilities adequately met



JOHN HOWER

The early settler of Girardville and one who was identified with many of the town's activities in later years.

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the demand for homes. Hower occupied the two houses while Levan and Shappell established themselves on the hill (The Mansion). Hower operated the hotel, The Girard House. The importance of this step can be fully realized when one realizes that the persons who were to carry on the work under his supervision had to be provided with living quarters. Thus, the hotel and the development of the town are closely connected.

The influence of Hower in the life of Girardville is that of building a community. He is responsible for a small band of emigrants; He and his wife and daughter Harriet; his mother and father; two brothers: William and Rhoades; and

the four people previously mentioned. This group increased to approximatley twenty as the development of the land under his direction progressed.

He immediately began to strip the land of its resources of timber. Lumber-jacks, teams, streams, mills, and Confidence constituted his original capital for the venture. He located the mills on the Mahanoy and Shenandoah creeks, then clear water streams but now polluted by the refuse of mine and village. The timber was prepared in the mills by an "up and down" saw, the power for which was taken from the streams. The finished product was then carried overland via Ashland and thence over "the broad mountain" to Port Carbon where much of it was utilized in the building of canal boats, or taken on boats to markets at Reading and Philadelphia.

Hower later increased his land holdings, in addition to those of the Girard Estate, by acquiring a strip of land from the lands of Foulke. This strip of land was located in the vicinity of Ogden St., between Line and Richard Sts. He plotted these lands in parcels of 50 x 150, and disposed of them by sale.

This man is credited with the erection of the first house built in Girardville in addition to those which the Girard Estate had constructed prior to his arrival. This house, built on Ogden St., induced others to locate here.

The introduction of mining brought about a wholesale leasing of land by mining companies. Accordingly, Hower's lease to the timber lands were gradually usurped by the new ventures. However, he maintained his business of timber cutting, supplying the mines with this much needed product.



CAPT. JACK CRAWFORD

Poet and the first Postmaster in Girardville.

Through the years his holdings diminished, due to the progress of the town. His only holding at his death was a farm in Franklin Twp. Death ended his career in 1882.

Colonel P. H. Monaghan

Col. P. H. Monaghan was born at Melmullet, County Mayo, Ireland, Nov. 19, 1843, being the son of Martin J. Monaghan and Nora (McMenamin) Monaghan. He came to

this country with his parents when five years of age, the family settling at Minersville. He entered school at the age of six, at Minersville, and later entered a Normal School. He received a diploma for teaching. When 20, he enlisted in Co. F, 48th Regiment, in June, 1863 and served with distinction until the final muster out of the troops in 1865. He was decorated by General Meade, at Petersburg, Va., with a medal of honor granted by Congress for distinguished gallantry on the field. Col. Monaghan was one of the two soldiers from Schuylkill county that received the medal of honor for gallant conduct on the field of battle.

After the war he organized a company of the National Guard in Girardville, of which he was Captain and he was later promoted to Lieut. Col. of the Second Regiment, and served in the cavalry until the regiment was disbanded on the reorganization of the Guard.

For forty-three years he was principal of the Girardville Schools. He took a deep interest in school matters, even after his retirement from active service.

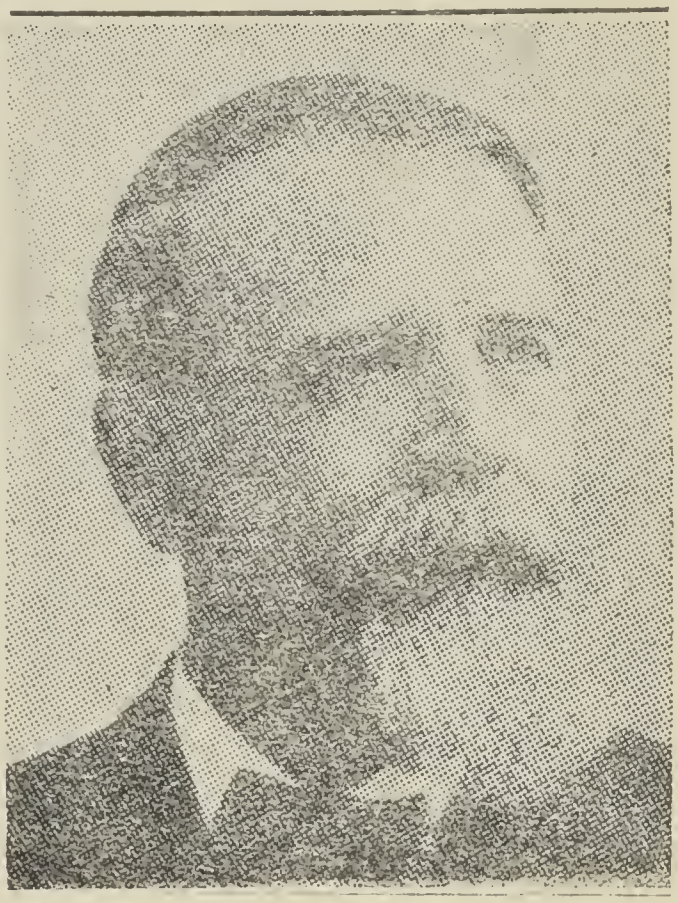
He was a home loving man, and his home was his castle. He spent his leisure time with his family and was a devoted and kind husband and father.

Col. Monaghan was a member of Major Jennings Post, G. A. R., and Father Sheridan Council, Knights of Columbus. He was a member of St. Joseph's church of Girardville.

In December, 1916, he suffered a serious heart attack, which confined him continuously to his bed until March, 1917. On Oct. 23, of the same year he passed away at his home in Girardville.

E. C. Wagner

Capt. E. C. Wagner, assistant superintendent of the vast holdings of the estate of Girard in Schuylkill and Columbia Counties, was one of the most popular and prominent citizens in the Schuylkill region.



E. C. WAGNER

Assistant Superintendent of the Girard Estate from March 1869 to Dec. 1912, and who was the leading spirit in many of the enterprises of the town.

He was the son of Louis and Christina (Berg) Wagner, and was born in Geissen, Germany, May 29, 1844. The Wagner family immigrated to this country in 1849, locating in Phila. Emil, the son, received his early education in the Phila. public schools. He learned the machinist trade with the well known firm of Wm. Sellers and Co., machine builders of the same city. During his employment with this company he was offered the more lucrative and responsible position of Assistant Superintendent of the Girard Estate in Schuylkill and Columbia Counties. Upon assuming the duties of this position he moved

to Girardville and made this town his headquarters, and it has remained the center of the Girard Estate holdings in the Coal fields.

The active interest with which he concerned himself with the affairs of the town soon stamped him as a progressive member of the community and a civic leader. Practically every business venture started in the town was the result of his spirit.

He devoted much of his time to civic projects. His great interest was that of school developments. He served on the first Board of Education and for 20 consecutive years following. He served as president, secretary and treasurer at various times, and his membership was terminated by death.

He was also a member of the Mahanoy Valley Agriculture Association, member of the American Institute of Engineering, and trustee of the Ashland State Hospital.

He was a prominent member of the Masonic fraternity and a thirty-second degree Mason, and a prominent member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He died Dec. 16, 1912.

Butler Twp. Is Composed of Mining Towns

(From "Pottsville Republican"-"Morning Paper," May 7-9, 1934)

By Geo. W. Carl and Ronald E. Kehler

Butler Township, bordering on Columbia County and Union Twp., of Schuylkill County on the north, has Barry Twp. for its western neighbor, Foster, Cass and New Castle on the south; and West Mahanoy on the east. Butler Twp. was originally included in the territory of Barry Twp.

At the request of a number of citizens of the eastern part of the township for a division of townships, in 1848, the court appointed Chas. Loeser, Nicholas Fox, and John Ruche, commissioners to run the line by which it was proposed to divide Barry Township into two townships. Said commissioners met at the public house of John G. Woolisin in said Barry Twp. on Monday, Oct. 16, 1848, and were joined by sundry citizens of Barry Twp., from both the lower and upper part of the township; and at the mutual request of all those present, they commenced to run the dividing line at a marked pitch pine tree near the junction of the road leading to Minersville and Coal Castle. and in a straight line from said marked pitch pine tree north 32 and three-quarter degrees west across the said township to the line of Northumberland County, per the annexed draft, number two.

All the citizens of Barry Township then present agreeing to have the township divided by that line, the undersigned commissioners declared themselves of the opinion that it was proper to divide the said township and that the proposed division line was a just and fair division. The report was signed by: Chas. Loeser, Nicholas Fox, and John Ruche, Commissioners. The draft referred to in the report has the following notation along the dividing line between Barry Twp., and the new township to be formed:

> **"Beginning at a pitch pine, on boundary line between Branch and Barry near road to Pottsville and New Castle, with tavern on said road to the west of the boundary line" Going north we find a chestnut tree, a chestnut oak tree, a pitch pine, then we cross the Mahanoy Creek two times and then again near the junction of the Mahanoy Creek and the Big Run Creek; then passing west of the house of George Maurer and passing through what may have been the barn of Maurer's, we come to a small maple tree, then a small white oak tree and a gum tree to a stone on the boundary line between Schuylkill and Northumberland Counties."**

The Court confirmed the report of the commissioners Dec. 14, 1848.

It perpetuates in its title the memory of the unsuccessful presidential candidates of the political campaign of Cass and Butler 1848, being named in honor of the latter mentioned statesmen, Wm. Orlando Butler.

At the time of its formation it was considered as "very much out of the world." being designated in the older settlements as "above the mountain," and most of the territory thus situated was new and undeveloped. However, the coal developments of the lower Schuylkill regions soon drew attention to other prospective fields, and the lands which had been entered on Revolutionary warrants were thrown upon the market as coal lands.

The principal tracts lying between the Mahanoy and Little Mahanoy Creeks, and which contained the boroughs of Ashland, Girardville, Gordon, and the present township of Butler, were patented to the Brobsts, Prestons, Kunckles, and Wm. Parker.

Lumbering Chief Early Industry

Lumbering was the principal industry for many years after the first settlement of the region. The first saw-mill in the township was built on the Mahanoy Creek in 1830, at a place called Mt. Hope.

The old Centre Turnpike crossed the territory from southeast to northwest; and along this thoroughfare, as early as 1810, an occasional settler could be found, and one or two places for the refreshment of man and beast had been opened. The "Seitzinger Tavern" at Fountain Springs was one of the earliest of these, being used at the same time as tavern and stage station. It was built by George Seitzinger in 1810. The next of its class was a log tavern, built on the present site of Ashland, in 1820. This was owned and operated by Jacob Rodenburger. The Seitzingers, Fausts, and Rodenburgers were the earliest settlers, and their connection with the territory dates back to 1801, although it is claimed that Nicholas Seitzinger made a clearing at Fountain Springs as early as 1795.

The first death in the township was that of a young man named Seitzinger, who was drowned in a mill pond; and his grave was the first in the "Seitzinger burying ground."

The pioneer preachers were Jacob Miller and an Englishman named Buoy.

In the early days of Butler, game was abundant and the only trouble taken by the Seitzingers to secure a plentiful supply of venison was to capture and tame a young doe, and when fresh meat was wanted, send her out to decoy others within rifle range. Beasts of prey also abounded, and the settlers soon became accustomed to the howling of the gray wolf, often beneath their cabin windows.

Butler Twp., originally included what are now the boroughs of Ashland, Girardville, Gordon, and the present township of Butler. The village of Ashland became a borough in 1857, Girardville in 1872, and Gordon in 1891. The present township of Butler includes the villages of Fountain Springs, Lavelle, Millersville, a few other small settlements south of Ashland, Big Mine Run, Homesville, Locust Dale, Connerton, Colorado, Rappahannock, Preston Hill, and Englewood.

The population of the township in 1850 was 400; in 1860, 1467; in 1870, 5905; and in 1880, 4678. The present population is 4448. The census of 1870 included Girardville and Gordon; the census of 1880 included Gordon. The population of Gordon in 1900 was 1,165.

Fountain Springs

Fountain Springs derived its name from a gushing spring of water, located a short distance west of the Seitzinger tavern. The village is the site of the Ashland State Hospital formerly known as the Miners' Hospital. It is one of the oldest villages in the county, and the first post-office in the northern part of the county was located there. This office was removed to Ashland in 1854, but was re-established at a later date, and continued until within recent years, when free mail delivery was established for Fountain Springs and the territory immediately surrounding it, the

mail being delivered from the Ashland post-office.

The Seitzinger family, previously mentioned were the first settlers of Fountain Springs. Nicholas Seitzinger was the pioneer settler. He was born Dec. 27, 1758, near Reading. His name appears as a Private on the payroll of Captain Chas. Gobins' Company of 6th Battalion of Berks County Militia, commanded by Col. Jos. Heister, from Aug. 10 to Sept. 9, 1780, in the war of the Revolution. He enlisted in Reading in 1777, and served two months and two days as a private in Captain Geist's Pennsylvania Co., and was wounded in the Battle of Brandywine. He enlisted ten days later and served two months as orderly sergeant in Capt. Lesher's Company. He re-enlisted in 1778 and served five weeks as a private in Capt. Kreamer's or Captain Emerich's Company, and later served three months as a private under Colonel Lapeal in the Pennsylvania troops. He appeared as a captain in the Berks County militia in 1794. He died July 5, 1834, and is buried in the Fountain Springs Cemetery. W. O. Seitzinger of Gordon, and Robert R. Seitzinger of Fountain Springs are the oldest living lineal descendants bearing the name.

Fountain Springs for a number of years was only a small settlement. Its great stimulation of growth came with the establishment of the Miners' Hospital in the village. The usual lines of mercantile pursuits are carried on, and on account of ideal locations for homes indications are favorable for a prosperous and permanent growth. Many beautiful homes have already been built along the State Highway leading from Fountain Springs to Frackville. There are productive farms adjoining Fountain Springs. The Fountain Springs Brewery is located in the village. The Ashland Brewing Company's plant is situated at Millersville west of Fountain Springs.

Ashland Gun and Country Club

The Ashland Gun and Country Club is located a short distance east of Fountain Springs. It was chartered May 1, 1916. Ground was broken for its present beautiful club house in the spring of 1915.

The opening of the club house was on Aug. 15, 1916. This club owns 15 acres of land, and its location is one of the beauty spots in the county. From the club house there is a wonderful view, and a clear unobstructed sky line for those who indulge in their favorite sport of blue rock shooting. There are eight modern shooting traps, each accommodating five persons, so that forty persons may participate in this sport at one time.

The Pennsylvania State Shoot was held here in 1928, on June 6, 7, 8, and 9. The leading professionals of the state, as well as amateurs participated in this event.

This club has ideal picnic grounds. Ovens and sheltered tables have been provided for picnic purposes. A pavilion and tennis courts are also to be constructed.

The club has 138 members. The officers are: Pres., Dr. R. A. Constein; Vice-Pres., John J. Broderick; Secty., Frank Laubenstein; Treas., Jos. G. Stief. The Board of Governors consists of Dr. Wm. H. Barr, Dr. D. J. Murphy, Dr. T. V. Buckley, John Dence, A. R. Laubenstein, and H. D. Sausser.

Fountain Springs Country Club

The home of the Fountain Springs Country Club is located a short distance southwest of Fountain Springs.

It was chartered in 1915, and has a plot of one hundred ten acres. Here the elite of the surrounding towns relax from business and professional worries, and engage in golf.

We find here a topography quite typical of our beautiful mountain region. Hills and valleys, crags and canyons, streams and lakes, broad grassy fields, and dense forests mingle in scenic beauty. On an eminence, commanding a view of the entire valley, there is a beautiful, spacious Club House. Adjoining the Club House is a house with showers and lockers.

The nine-hole golf course, laid out by experts, is considered one of the trickiest and most difficult in America, and has won the admiration of many of our country's most noted professionals.

Down in a deep valley, almost hidden by forests of pine and spruce, is a swimming pool that attracts many hundreds of bathers during the summer months.

On the roll of members of the Fountain Springs Country Club are to be found the names of many of the most prominent families. At present there are about two hundred members. The officers are: Pres., Frank J. Pepper, Ashland; 1st Vice-Pres., Dr. C. M. Bordner, Shenandoah; 2nd Vice-Pres., John T. Aston, Mt Carmel; Secty., W. P. Kemble, Mt. Carmel; Treas., Jos. T. Schneider, Mt. Carmel.

Lavelle

Lavelle was first called Salome, in honor of Salome Hepler Bolich, wife of Michael Bolich, owner and pioneer settler. Later, the name Salome was applied only to the west end, and Rocktown was applied to the east end of the town. The east end was owned by George Snyder, a brother-in-law of Michael Bolich. The name Lavelle was given to the entire settlement of Salome and Rocktown about 1880, in honor of the noted lawyer of Ashland and famous cavalryman of the Civil War Martin M. Lavelle. It was at this time the first post-office was established.

Northeast of Lavelle, John Dennison and Co., opened the Keystone Mines in 1862. This colliery employed more than two hundred men and was in operation for about twenty-five years.

The Brentzel mines, founded by Philip Brentzel, were opened in 1882. The coal mined here was prepared at the Bichel Colliery.

The Powder Mill, located east of Lavelle, was built about 1870. Here was prepared black powder for use in the mines. This had grown to be quite a plant, having ten buildings. An explosion in 1895 destroyed some of the buildings, and after the explosion in 1906 it was abandoned.

At Lavelle was organized a Schuylkill County Fair, in 1886. It was short-lived, ending in 1895.

The first church in the village was organized in 1904 by the United Evangelicals. Prior to this time most of the residents worshipped in the Barry Church.

Pioneer of Lavelle

The pioneer settler of Lavelle was Michael Bolich, born in 1797 near McKeansburg, Pa. For many years the deeds as recorded named this portion of Butler Township as Salome, or Salomeville.

Michael Bolich was a local preacher, probably of the Baptist faith. He held services in many of the log houses here and throughout the Hanyost, Deep Creek and Mahantongo Valleys. Barry Church, which was attended by the Lavelle folk, is built on ground which was given by Michael Bolich.

His claim was all timber land; his hands were the first to swing the axe in the forest and build here a home. The log house, his first home in this region, had a door but no lock, window frames but no windows. The first land cleared was by him, and it was his gun that fired the first shot that sent the bear or the wolf either to his hiding place or to the salt barrel for winter use.

South of Lavelle, he built a saw mill run by water power. Here he cut the lumber used to build a home for each of his children, residing in Barry, Butler, and Eldred Townships.

Michael Bolich was the father of the following children: Anna, wife of Adam Fertich; Salome, wife of George Bensinger; Manda, wife of Samuel Grow; Rebecca, wife of Isaac Betz; Polly, wife of Daniel Hepler; Levina, wife of Daniel Smith; Nathan, William, Emanuel and Timothy.

Michael Bolich died in 1871 and was buried in the Reed Cemetery; later his body was removed to the Barry Cemetery, south of Lavelle.

Mining Villages

The villages of Locust Dale, Millersville, Big Mine Run, Homesville, Preston Hill, Connerton, Rappahannock, and Colorado were settled and developed because of the anthracite interests. The existence of these villages dates from the erection of tenant houses for the workmen at the various collieries.

Englewood, the latest addition to the villages of the township, is located west of Frackville.

Collieries

The territory of Butler Twp. is very rich in coal deposits, and during the period from 1835 to 1875, there were many collieries in the township. Most of these in the beginning were owned and operated by individuals or "Improvement Companies." In later years they were either purchased or leased by the Philadelphia & Reading Coal & Iron Co., or the Lehigh Valley Coal Co. Some of them, after being operated by these companies for a time, were abandoned, being absorbed by larger and more modern collieries. The P. & R. C. & I. Co. now operates most of the extensive mining operations in the township.

The Big Mine Run colliery was opened in 1854 by Bast & Pierson, and operated by them until 1868, when it was purchased by Taylor & Lindsay, who operated it until 1872, when they sold to Jeremiah Taylor & Co., who owned and operated it for a number of years. This colliery for some time was one of the most successful in the anthracite region. The breaker had a capacity of 1,000 tons, and an average production of 750 tons daily. The coal shipped from this mine was valued highly by manufacturers and other competent judges. The tract comprising the Big Mine Run Colliery was absorbed by the P. & R. C. & I. Co. holdings.

The Bast Colliery was opened by Bast & Pierson in 1835, and the first shipment was made in that year. About the year 1860, Emanuel Bast purchased the interests of his father, and some ten years later he sold it to the P. & R. C. & I. Co., who are the present owners, and who still continue to operate it. The total annual production is about 100,000 tons.

The Preston Colliery, No. 1, was opened by the Preston Improvement Co., on their lands in the northeastern part of Butler Township, in the year 1862, and was worked by them and others until 1878, when the machinery was removed from the breaker to Preston Colliery No. 2.

In 1872 it became the property of the P. & R. C. & I. Co.

Preston Colliery No. 2, located near No. 1, was opened in 1864 by the Preston Improvement Co., who commenced shipping coal in 1865, and, after operating it for several years, sold it to W. J. Moody & Co., who continued in possession until 1872, when the P. & R. C. & I. Co. became the owners. This colliery, during its existence, was very productive. The average daily shipment was above 400 tons. The colliery was operated for a number of years by the P. & R. C. & I. Co., and then abandoned.

Preston Colliery No. 3, located south of the borough of Girardville, was also the property of the Preston Improvement Co., and, with the other collieries, fell into the hands of the P. & R. C. & I. Co. It also was quite productive, having a breaker capacity of 500 tons, and an average shipment of 350 tons daily. Like the other Preston collieries, after being operated by the P. & R. C. & I. Co. for a number of years, it was abandoned. The coal mined from its tract was handled at the larger P. & R. C. & I. Co. breakers.

The Girard Colliery, one of the collieries of the Girard Estate, was opened in 1864. After being operated for a time by the Girard Estate, it was leased by the P. & R. C. & I. Co., and operated by them for a number of years, when it, also, was abandoned. This colliery was situated about half a mile east of the borough of Girardville.

The Connor and Hammond Collieries, situated one and a half miles northeast of the borough of Girardville, were opened in June, 1862, by Messrs. Connor and Patterson. Colonel Connor was the pioneer coal operator of the Mahanoy region. In 1863 they came under the control of the P. & R. C. & I. Co. This company is still operating the Hammond Colliery. The lease covered all the coal on the John Alexander, Jas. Chapman, and Samuel Scott tracts. This lease, although the first opened on the Girard Estate, and the one from which the first car of coal was shipped over the Mahanoy and Broad Mountain extension of the P. & R. Railroad in May, 1863, is still one of the most productive and valuable of the Girard Estate, on account of the great depth of the basin and the excellence of coal

The Potts Colliery, located at Locust Dale, is just over the line in Columbia County, but is closely identified with the interests of the Schuylkill coal field. It was opened by Geo. C. Potts & Co., in 1857, and is now the property of the P. & R. C. & I. Co. It is operated at the present time by this company. It is also very productive. J. L. Beadle and Wm. Rearsbeck, of Locust Dale, were the inventors of the ventilating fan for coal mines, first adopted by the Potts Collieries in 1860, and now, with improved facilities, in general use.

The Keystone Colliery, at Locust Dale, was opened in the year 1862, by John Dennison & Co. This colliery became the property of the P. & R. C. & I. Co., who operated it for a number of years. It was also quite productive during its existence. During its operation by this company, the outside foreman was Fred Granzow. The dumping apparatus in use at this colliery was the invention of Mr. Granzow. This dumping apparatus was quickly adopted by other collieries; and its principle, with improved facilities, is still in use.

The Tunnel Colliery, south of the town of Ashland, was an extensive working during the early history of

the township of Butler. It proved, however, to be one of the most dangerous mines in the county, owing to the development of so large an amount of carburetted gas. Jas. L. Cleaver, of Ashland, operated this colliery before it was absorbed by the P. & R. C. & I. Co. This company continued its operation for a time, and then abandoned it.

The Pioneer Colliery, situated south of Ashland, at the entrance from Fountain Springs in a gap of the Mahanoy Mountain, was another mine of perilous danger. It was located upon the estate of John P. Brock, Esq. and others. Messrs. Bancroft, Lewis & Co. operated this colliery from its commencement in 1853 until Dec., 1868. It then came under the control of the P. & R. C. & I. Co., being abandoned by them after a few years of operation.

Immense embankments of debris marked, until within recent years, the stimulus of former operations and indicated no small amount of work accomplished. Reckless waste might have been avoided by using different machinery. It has been estimated that fully one-third of the coal taken out of the earth was cast aside as refuse. Within the past twenty years, however, numerous washeries have been established near these old workings, and the coal contained in the embankments has been salvaged and marketed.

The opening of the mines north of the Broad Mountain in Schuylkill Co. should be credited to J. J. Conner, Esq., and to him also must be attributed much of the success which has attended the formation and advancement of the western branch of the Mahanoy coal region.

The present coal operations, located within the confines of Butler Township, are the Potts Colliery, the Bast and the Hammond, which are P. & R. C. & I. Co. operations, and the Packer No. 5, a Lehigh Valley operation.

Fire Companies

The American Fire Co. No. 1, of Fountain Springs, was chartered Oct. 1, 1924. The first officers were: Pres., Chas. Meder; Vice Pres., Francis Miller; Recording Secy., Chas. Gress; Financial Secy., Louis Fetterman; Treas., Warren Fisher. There are 54 members at present. The company owns a latest Hahn Fire Truck, with all modern equipment. It is especially equipped for rural work, with a 125-gallon auxiliary water tank. The company has a fine, modern building, and is free of debt.

The Englewood Friendship Hose Co. No. 1, of Englewood, was organized in April, 1925. The charter was granted June 1, 1925. The first officers were: Pres., Wm. Selgrath; Vice Pres., Peter Sankus; Secy., John Chryshane; Treas., Walter Kluchinsky. At present the number of members is 75. It has a fully equipped, latest model fire truck, housed in a fine building of modern construction.

CHURCHES

St. Helen's Chapel

Those people of the Catholic faith residing at Fountain Springs were compelled, for seventy years, to travel to nearby towns to worship. For several years prior to the erection of the present church, they worshipped in the Stabler property. The convenience this afforded was so appreciated that in 1923 the members purchased a plot of ground, the present site, from Miss Theresa Stabler and erected thereon a beautiful and commodious structure in which to worship.

St. Helen's Chapel was dedicated in 1924, by the first pastor the Rev. John Brogan, of Gordon.

Built by the side of the road, on a hill where it cannot be hid, stands this chapel, a living monument for the inspiration and guidance of her people. The present pastor is Rev. Cornelius F. Burke, of Gordon.

Christ United Evangelical Church

The Christ United Evangelical Church, Lavelle, largest church in Butler Twp., was organized in the spring of 1904. Under the leadership of Rev. C. M. Rothermel, a meeting of the Protestant citizens of Lavelle was held in the basement of the P. O. S. of A. Hall on May 28, 1904, for the expressed purpose of discussing plans for the building of the church. After careful consideration it was decided to locate the church at the west end of the town.

A committee was appointed by the chairman to purchase the Bolich lots, the spot designated for the subsequent erection of the church. The lots were purchased for $115. part of which was already in the hands of the committee. The balance of the money was raised by subscription. The members of the committee were: Lewis B. Felker, Edwin Helwig, G. B. Zeigenfuse, John H. Snyder, and Rev. C. M. Rothermel. This committee gave long and careful study of the plans for the proposed church building, with the result that the church is one of the finest and most convenient of this denomination in this region. The building, a frame structure of spacious dimensions, comprises a well-lighted auditorium for church services, and an adjoining Sunday School room, which may also be used to increase the seating capacity of the main auditorium.

The church was under the charge of Locust Dale, but in 1929 it was decided to form a separate station, and have a minister for the Christ United Evangelical Church only. This progressive zeal further manifested itself in the expansion of the church property; namely the purchase of a parsonage for the minister. This is conveniently situated in the center of the town. The church membership and the Sunday School enrollment is constantly increasing. The present pastor is Rev. Wm. Biechler.

Christ Congregational Church

The history of the Christ Congregational Church at Fountain Springs found its inception in the year 1883 when the devout Rev. Wm. Griffiths moved to Fountain Springs. Prior to this time services were held in the school house.

The cornerstone of the present edifice was laid in 1884, and the Church was dedicated in 1885. Through the leadership of their energetic pastor, and through financial assistance to the amount of four hundred dollars from the Home Missionary Society of the Congregational Denomination and the faithful and liberal co-operation of the Protestant citizens of Fountain Springs and the surrounding country, the church prospered and manifested its influence in terms of consecrated lives.

From the erection of the church in 1885 to the year 1904, a financial struggle existed. But there was the satisfaction during all those years of having completed such projects as adding the belfry, raising the church building so that a Sunday School department might be located in the basement, and the purchase of stain-glass windows. The church steadily progressed.

In 1910, by a unanimous vote of the congregation, urged by a liberal

donation of a fine piece of land from Wm. C. Richards, Fountain Springs, a parsonage was built. The debt contracted in the building of a parsonage gave rise to a period of great activity, and at the end of six years the congregation was again free of debt.

Recently, under the present pastorate of Rev. Roland E. Kehler, extensive remodeling has been undertaken and completed. Services of rededication of the building were held June 12, 1932. Christ Church is of very simple architectural design, resembling straight lined austerity of the early New England meeting-houses. The casual worshipper is surprised when he sees the beautiful interior of painted plaster walls and lighting fixtures of unusual design and beauty, its carpeted floor, and beautiful pulpit furniture.

The church is situated in a prominent position along the State Highway, across from the Ashland State Hospital.

Grace United Evangelical Church

In the year 1882 the corner stone was laid for the Grace Evangelical Church, Locust Dale. At this time, the village had a population of 1000 and had two flourishing collieries—the Potts and the Keystone.

This church was erected just 10 years after the Barry church of the same denomination. The growth of the Locust Dale church was such that later it formed the nucleus of three churches and gave the circuit its name, the Locust Dale charge. In 1929 the Christ United Evangelical, Lavelle, withdrew and formed a separate station, and in 1930 the Barry Church was added to Lavelle.

When Rev. C. M. Rothermel was pastor in 1904 the church was enlarged and the belfry was added. In 1929 the church building was raised and a separate department for the primary department was made possible. Interior improvements and additions were made.

Prior to the erection of this church the Methodist denomination had charge of services in the village.

The Rev. Samuel Obetz is the pastor of Grace United Evangelical Church at present, and much credit for its present growth and Christian influence is due him.

EDUCATION

Previous to the formation of Butler Twp. in 1848, there was one pay school in the territory comprising it. Miss Mary Savage was the teacher. The school was supported by A. H. Wilson, Samuel Boone, Peter Seitzinger and R. C. Wilson.

The first school house was built at Fountain Springs, where the Miners' Hospital (now the Ashland State Hospital) now stands, about 1830. Shortly after the erection of the township of Butler, its first town election was held at Fountain Springs, and resulted in the choice of R. Carr Wilson as school director, J. L. Cleaver, justice, and Elisha Pedrick, town clerk.

In the first report of County Superintendent Jonathan Krewson, for the year ending Jue 1, 1855, he reports Butler Twp. as having 6 schools of a 6 months' term. There were five male teachers, and two females. The salary of the male teachers was $25, and of the females $20. The total enrollment was 259 pupils. The cost of education per pupil was $.62 per month. They received for the year $93.86 from the state, as state appropriation.

In 1880 the public schools of Butler Twp. numbered twenty-five, kept in fifteen buildings. Several of

these schools were graded. The number of teachers employed was twenty-seven, of whom fifteen were males, with an average monthly salary of $59.17; and twelve females, with an average salary of $24.91 per month. The number of children in attendance was 1,836. The officers for 1880, and their places of residence were: B. F. Triebly, Pres., South Butler; Owen Conroy, Treas., North Butler; D. D. Philips, Secy., South Butler; Charles G. Shoemaker, South Butler; John Duffey, North Butler; Richard Flynn, North Butler. The bonded indebtedness of the district in 1880 was $6,600. The assessed valuation of property in the township in 1880 was $1,185,673.

In 1893 there were 33 schools, and 35 teachers, and the total net enrollment was 1675. In addition to these elementary pupils attending the schools in the home township, Butler Township sends 198 pupils to the high school at Ashland, Girardville, Frackville and Gordon. Those pupils as well as the pupils of the closed Frackville Road school are transported. The board of directors in 1893 realized that the schools would be served to better advantage by having a supervising principal to organize the separate schools into a more efficient school system. They elected M. J. Sweeney as supervising principal. He served two terms, 1893-1894 and 1894-1895. From 1895 until 1905 Butler Township did not have a supervising principal of schools. In 1905 E. T. Kenney was elected supervising principal, and he served from 1905 until his death in 1919. The next head of the schools was M. A. Carey. He was elected in 1919 and served until 1931, when he was retired on superannuation.

In 1931 Geo. W. Carl was elected supervising principal, and he occupies that position at the present time.

Among the persons who served as school directors of Butler Township were: R. Carr Wilson, B. F. Triebly, John Connolly, Rev. Rudolph Duenger, Chas. Dougherty, Chas. Shoemaker, Daniel Sullivan, Patrick Dolan, Anthony Monaghan, Anthony McCormick, Michael Munnelly, Anthony McAndrew, John Duffy, John Paul, Geo. Kessler, Terrence Ginley, David Phillips, Owen Conroy, Richard Flynn, Nicholas Miller, John Burmeister, Isaac Reed, Jos. Rhoads, Wm. Wattersheid, George Miller, Isadore Stabler, Chas. A. Miller, George Gressang, Daniel Schwartz, Steven Horan, Thos. Nolan, Thos. McCormick, John Irwin, Sr., and Carl N. Miller.

The present board members are: Pres., John J. Irwin, Connerton; Vice Pres., Erastus N. Klees, Ashland (Fountain Springs); Secy., John Cleary, Ashland (Big Mine Run); Treas., John E. Welker, Lavelle; and Wm. J. Kenney, Connerton. The Attendance Officer is John Connors, Girardville.

The teachers for the term of 1933-1934 are: Catherine R. Barrett, Clerk; Frances C. Malloy, Dental Hygienist; Mary E. Rowland, Penmanship Supervisor; Helen J. Kehler, Art Teacher; Colorado, Joseph Griffiths and Bridget Barrett; Rappahannock, James B. Carduff and Catherine M. Monaghan; Connerton, John B. Gaughan, Hannah M. Irwin, Ella G. Reedy, Irene M. McDonald and Ella Coyle; Preston Hill, Jos. V. Horan; Homesville, Edw. J. O'Donnell, Hilda A. McManamin and Tillie Monaghan; Big Mine Run, Edw. M. Kirwan, Lucy McDonald and Catherine Dougherty; Locust Dale, W. C. Shoemaker and Blanche O'Donnell; Lavelle, Ronald E. Kehler, Margaret Garvey, Anne Kenney, Martina E. Neiss, and Mabel M. Kehler; Island, Edward F. Kessler; Millersville, Patrick J. Hart; Foun-

tain Springs, George W. Marquardt. Mary F. Rowland, and Mary I. Daley; Mountain, Catherine M. McDonald; Englewood, Patrick V. Murray, Thos. F. Crane, Rosemary E. Rowland; Evening Schools, Thomas J. Moran and Mrs. Theresa McGinley McHale.

Immaculate Heart Academy

The Academy of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, for young ladies and girls, conducted by the Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, is located in the heart of the Broad Mountains of Schuylkill County, at Fountain Springs, between Ashland and Frackville.

The building of dull bricks, with stone facings and terra cotta trimmings, is complete and modern in every respect. The interior construction is of steel and re-enforced concrete, with fire-proof partitions, making the structure fireproof throughout. Complete heating system, water supply, and fire-protective systems have been installed. There is an abundant supply of pure water from an artesian well on the premises. Particular care has been taken in the illumination, the intensity of the light being proportioned to suit the occupancy of the various sections of the building. The building was designed by Paul Monaghan, Architect of Phila., Pa., and the late Gordon Nagle, of Pottsville, was the contractor who put up the structure.

The Academy, a boarding and day school for young ladies and girls, was formally opened on Sept. 11, 1927, and since that time has been doing very excellent work in furthering the educational interests of the pupils who have been placed under the care of the Sisters at the Academy.

The School offers every facility to aid the children in acquiring a solid and thoroughly Christian education, no care being spared to train them to habits of virtue and to the refinements of good society. Social life is an educational force in promoting the graces and amenities of daily intercourse.

The health and comfort of the students receive constant and special attention.

For the convenience of the boarders at the Academy, all modern aids are available; the school operates its own bus for the transportation of the day pupils.

The Academy is an essentially Catholic institution. Non-Catholics are admitted into the institution, provided they conform to the general rules and regulations.

The scholastic year consists of two semesters of five months each. There is an elementary department and an intermediate department to which boys may be admitted as day scholars.

There is a standard High School Course, accredited by the Department of Public Instruction, Harrisburg, on April 14, 1931. Its purpose is to prepare for college entrance. In addition to the above, the Academy has a very complete Scientific Course.

The Department of Music endeavors to teach music scientifically and technically, and at the same time, to treat it from the aesthetic standpoint as an element of liberal culture. The study of Art has great cultural value, and occupies a place of deserved importance in the work of the school.

The High School Department includes six classrooms, three scientific laboratories, auditorium, library, reading room, art room and music hall.

A specialty is made of the work in Physical Culture, from which no student is excused except by physician's order.

A tennis court, basketball field and charming walks in the immediate vicinity provide excellent opportunity for outdoor exercise. For indoor recreation they may avail themselves of the spacious gymnasium.

PROMINENT CITIZENS

His Eminence, D. Cardinal Dougherty, was born in Homesville, Butler Twp., Aug. 16, 1865. He attended the Homesville schools until he was 14 years of age when he applied for admission to the Seminary at Overbrook. Although he successfully passed the entrance examination, the authorities deemed him too young. Thereupon, by the advice of his saintly pastor, the Rev. Michael A. Sheridan, who had poured the waters of regeneration on his infant head, he went to St. Mary's College, Montreal, Canada, in charge of the Jesuit Fathers.

Two years he remained, and then again presented himself at Overbrook. Given the privilege of undergoing examination for a higher class, he made the same standing as he would have attained had he been admitted at the age of 14. Although the youngest in his class, he immediately took first place, and continued to hold that position until three years thereafter, when he was sent by Archbishop Ryan to the North American College, where he studied from 1885 until 1890, taking the degree of Doctor of Sacred Theology, following his ordination by Cardinal Parocchi on May 31, 1890, in the Church of St. John the Lateran, Rome.

His first Mass was celebrated the next day at the Altar of the Chair of St. Peter, in St. Peter's Basilica.

On his return to this country, he was appointed a professor in the Seminary, where he continued to teach until his nomination to the episcopate, occupying the chair of Dogmatic Theology, and also conducting classes in Greek and French. In addition, he acted as procurator fiscalis, and he was also one of the synodal examiners.

He was ordained May 31, 1890, consecrated Bishop of Nueva Segovia, Philippine Islands, June 14, 1903, and transferred to Jaro, Philippine Islands, April 19, 1908. He was transferred to Buffalo, December 6, 1915, enthroned as Archbishop of Philadelphia, July 10, 1918; pallium conferred May 6, 1919; and created Cardinal Priest, March 7, 1921. His residence is 54th St. and City Line, Overbrook; office 225 North 18th St., Phila.

Anthony Dougherty

Anthony Dougherty, brother of His Eminence, D. Cardinal Dougherty, resides in Homesville. He served as tax receiver of Butler Township for 40 years, resigning from office in 1933.

Andrew J. Maloney

Andrew J. Maloney was born at Connerton, where he attended the local schools, and later worked at Hammond and Packer No. 5 Collieries.

He studied bookkeeping in Philip J. Connell's school at Girardville. In 1900 he went to Philadelphia, where he served as usher in the Walnut St. Theatre for some time. He studied law at Temple University. He worked for the Whitehall Portland Cement Co. of Phila. until 1910, when he went to Chicago and became a salesman for the Wentz Coal Co. At the age of 25 he was elevated to the presidency of the Company.

In Nov., 1927, he was elected President of the Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Company, with headquarters at Phila. He resides at Narbeth, Pennsylvania.

SAINT CLAIR



F. P. McCULLOUGH



ESTHER A. BOTZER



FRANK J. NOONAN

The three persons shown in the pictures above were in charge of assembling and editing the history of St. Clair from its earliest days up to the present time.

Hancock Street In 1900



One of the streets in St. Clair in which a great change has taken place within recent years is Hancock St.. Thirty-four years ago this street looked like this. Now it has been paved, $10,000 concrete bridge has been built, the buildings along the street have been remodeled and several fine dwellings have been built.

Mining Hamlets Nucleus of Saint Clair

(From "Pottsville Republican"-"Morning Paper," May 10-29, 1934)

The history of St. Clair was complied by St. Clair History Committee composed of Francis P. McCullough, Chairman, Frank J. Noonan and Miss Esther Botzer.

The committee wishes to express appreciation to those who have helped them in gathering some very interesting facts:

To Mrs. Bridget Monahan whose keen memory and residence of four score years was invaluable in relating the early history of St. Clair. Mrs. Fannie Evans also contributed valuable information relative to the story of the early history.

To Miss Ann Jones, W. J. Evans and Chas. R. Birch in relating the development of the school system.

To Oliver Roads, Engineer of the P. & R. C. & I. Co., and Harold Smythe for their expert information on the history of mining in St. Clair.

To the officials of the railroads and bus companies in supplying the vital facts in the development of transportation.

To Mrs. Peter Quirin and Charles Short for information concerning the early brass foundry and the furnace of St. Clair, respectively.

To S. H. Daddow for his interesting account concerning the industries in which his family played an active part.

To the officials of the Fire Departments for their cooperation in tracing the development of their organizations.

To the members of the Clergy whose cooperation made possible a complete history of the seventeen churches of St. Clair.

To Norman Beisel, General Manager of Pottsville Water Company, for his interesting account concerning the community's water supply.

To Elmer Boyer and Edward R. Scherr who related accounts for the history of bands and musical organizations.

To W. A. Reese, Mrs. Norman Payne, John Smith, Mrs. Anna Slattery, David Buchanan, and William Morris, who aided in recording the many contributions made by the community during different wars.

To Miss Louise Meinhold and Miss Margaret C. Ray whose cooperation made the process of compilation less difficult.

To the members of the graduating class of the St. Clair High School, they are indebted for the gathering of the many facts as were given by the contributors.

To the following for early written records:

History of Schuylkill County, published by W. W. Munsell of New York City—1881.

History of Schuylkill County, published by State Historical Association—1907.

History of St. Clair—Written by Mr. Harrison and published in 1931 Firemen's Convention Programme.

History of St. Clair—Anniversary Publications of Pottsville Republican.

St. Clair is situated on Mill Creek near the center of the first or southern coal field. Michael Bechtell, coming here at the beginning of the nineteenth century, was the first settler and he located on the farm owned by the late Samuel Arnout which comprises the portion of St. Clair now known as Arnouts Addition. Granny Krebs, famous for Granny Kreb's Cough Drops, owned the farm previously to Samuel Arnout. Michael Bechtell was followed by John Malone, a lumber dealer, the Nichols family and others. Saint Clair Nichols purchased the land from Bechtell and Malone and a tract which has become St. Clair proper. Therefore, Saint Clair Nichols owned the original site of the village and his christian name was chosen as a mark of respect to his memory and also in honor of General St. Clair, who became famous fighting the Indians of the Northwest in 1791. Clair means illustrious and the surname St. Clair is derived from the name of a Norman village of St. Clair.

The entire section of St. Clair was a dense forest in the early days. The Parvins' Hill site was a beautiful chestnut grove. The valley of St. Clair proper was a swamp and a dense forest of giant gum, spruce and oak trees.

Saw mills were as great a necessity as the pick and shovel became later and these were provided as rapidly as the industrious settlers demanded. The earliest saw-mill in the place was erected near the present Methodist Episcopal Church, and another later, near John's Breaker opposite the present site of the Donahue residence of John's Patch.

In 1831 Henry C. Carey, Isaac Lea, Edw. L. Carey and Abraham Hart purchased from Arthur St. Clair Nichols and Frances B. Nichols the St. Clair tract. This tract remained in the possession of Henry C. Carey, Abraham Hart and Eliza C. Baird, the last being the sister and one of the heirs of Edward L. Carey, until Jan. 1, 1872, when it was disposed of to the P. and R. C. and I. Co. This land comprised the whole of the borough flat. Later the land surface was sold to individuals for a "fee." The mineral rights were retained by this company. However, Carey, Lea and Hart had sold land to many of the settlers prior to 1872, and this land, therefore, was not included in the purchase of 1872 by this corporation. It is claimed, also, that Carey, Lea, and Hart only sold the surface land and retained the mineral rights until the sale to Phila. and Reading Co., in 1872.

The period of 1824-1870 marked the working of many coal operations. These operations brought with them different settlements, and the cessation of these same operations left no mark except the name of a once prosperous domicile. John's Patch, Crow Hollow, Mount Hope, Mine's Hill, Girard Tunnel and Irish Town are among those early settlements which owe their beginning and end to the coming and going of the different operations.

The Rainbow Colliery at Crow Hollow in 1824 brought to its vicinity inhabitants of this settlement, who were to remain there until 1870. Among the names of families who were there were: the Dewalds, Morans, Woods, Quigleys, Brennans, Dughans, Metz, Sullivans, Coyles, Longs, Omlors, Duffys, Caesars, Minnicks, Readings, McGoffs, Begley, Durkins, Winters, Schlottmans, Burgetts, Noones, and Kirk who was the proprietor for over fourteen years.

650

McGOUGH?

The John's Colliery was instrumental in the formation of John's Patch. Between 1832-1882 this settlement contained the names of the following families: Patrick and John Malia, John Patrick and Patsy Kirk, Donahues, Snyders, Shays, Ryans, Learys, Sullivans, McGraths, Mitchells, Manions, Phflipans, Brennans, Murrays, Igos, Burns, Flanagans, Croxtons, Bahans, Gibbins, Patrick Mack, Martin Fox, Frank Danks, Carters, and Johns, the proprietors for many years during that period.

The Hickory Colliery of 1828-1874 gave rise to the Milne Hill settlement. Among the names of inhabitants who lived there were: Luke Deane, Simmons, Gables, Burns, Eagans, Mills, and the Philipps.

Lawton Peacock Colliery of 1825 gave rise to the Girard Tunnel which was still popular until the Reading Co. Stripping Operation of 1915. In this settlement were the families of Patrick Duffy, Patrick Lacy, Martin Mulroy, Flannerys, Patrick Murray, Jas. Cummings, Thos. Durkin, Tady Carroll, Michael Kenney, Wm. Rooney, Mulroys, Mike Clark, Jeardons, and the Garlands.

The High Germany Colliery attracted after 1830 few of the early settlers to the settlement of Mount Hope. In this settlement were: the Grants, Crawshaws, James, Anchens, Fromleys, Morrisons, Gallens, Carters, Morgans, Thomas, Daddows and Urchs.

Irish Town, which traces its early history to mining operations as early as 1840, contained the families of John, Patrick and Cass McCullough, Bill Dougherty, Patrick Toner, Bradleys, Edw. McKenna, Jas. McGonegal, Michael McCullough, Begleys, and John Driscoll.

About 1875 marked the cessation of many mining operations, bringing many of the inhabitants to the town proper, and causing many of them to seek their fortunes in the undeveloped coal fields of Shenandoah and Mahanoy City. Therefore, many of the old residents of these communities trace their families to the early settlers of St. Clair.

The town proper has its own history of development and it affords opportunities to record some of them as they are not only interesting but vital in understanding how St. Clair had undergone changes in the construction of the community as we know it today. The more important events will be discussed at length at the proper time and place according to classification and occurrence of the event. In this part of the history it is deemed sufficient to state in a general manner other facts that will not be touched upon in the political, economic, social, and religious history from 1850 to 1934.

Between 1840-1870 marked the popularity of Howard's Row on So. Mill St., the Long Row on North Third St., Lanigan's Row on South Third St. and Kirk's Row on Nicholas St. These groups of homes of the early type were the habitats of many of the early settlers in the town proper.

In 1831 St. Clair Nichols set apart a lot for a graveyard. Anthony Irwin residing here, helped to fence it, and was grave-digger during several years. The land was afterward deeded, by Carey, Lea and Hart, to the borough, and was set apart for a borough cemetery.

In 1826 the Danville-Pottsville Railroad ran through the Girard Tunnel.

In 1829 the Mill Creek Railroad was extended from Port Carbon to this place, thus inaugurating the

system of horse cars, drawn on wooden rails, which did much in opening up the coal interests of the community. In 1845 this railroad was extended to Broad Mountain. Also in 1829 John Burgett started a boarding house for laborers working on the Girard Tunnel. The tent that he used gave place to a small frame tavern which he called "Cross Keys." This was the first public house in the village. Burgett had a daughter Charlotte, who was the first child born in the town.

Daniel Frack, founder of Frackville, came about 1831, and built a tavern on the next lot south, at the corner of Hancock and Third Sts. The third tavern, the first voting place, was built by Jacob Metz, 1844, and later kept by H. H. Marshall. The hotel kept by John Taggert was commenced soon afterward on the present site of the M. J. Boone Building. The Commercial Hotel on the present site of the Schuylkill Supply Store followed shortly later.

As in other sections of the country, the early homes of St. Clair residents were of the log cabin variety. Several of them remained until the banks of culm from the Hickory Colliery covered the site of most of them. They were mostly two-roomed structures built on one floor.

Many of the houses were located along what is now the route of the Reading Railroad through the borough. Among those who lived in these houses in 1839 are families of Andy and Terry McHugh, Patrick Keary, Thos. Igo, John Igo, Martin Duffy, Michael Reilly and Patrick Reynolds. At the time of the building of the railroad in 1845 all these families removed to Crow Hollow in Norwegian Township, and in 1868 removed back to St. Clair, taking their residence in the newly planned town. The plans of the early settlers had been changed for the town later took the place of the trees while the greater portion of the vacant area remaining in the borough proper is in the western limits.

On the present site of the St. Clair Coal Co. breaker was located a powder mill operated by a member of the Dengler family. On the 29th of July, over a century ago the father and two boys were killed when the mill blew up. What caused the explosion was never known. Another powder mill was operated farther up the mountain but the explosion practically put an end to the powder industry in the town.

Strange as it may seem, St. Clair, despite its present standing as a coal town, owed most of its early progress to the iron industry and for many years the furnace located at the southwestern portion of the borough formed an integral part of the town's industrial life. This furnace was started in 1842 by Burd S. Patterson but work was suspended in 1844 and was re-opened twenty years later for another period of operation of nine years by Jas. Langton. There was another Iron Foundry located on North Third St. where the Urashus property now is situated. When this lot was bought by Wm. Childs, who built the present property, the children of town collected the iron and sold it.

The meat industry was developed at a very early date. Among the earliest slaughter houses was the Meinhold slaughter house situated on Price St., and Schmeltzer's located on North Mill St., and later Arnout's on present site of the Jos. Scherr property, and the Henry Wurster's on South Mill St. and O'Donnell's on North Front St.

The Saint Clair post office was established in 1845. The mail was carried by stage to and from Pottsville. John Breadon was the owner of the first stage coach. Tony Irvin was the first stage driver and he is remembered by singing the follow-

McGOUGH

ing with much humor and volume:

"Old Anty at the break of day
Taking all the ladies away—
Ach! You know."

The postmasters in order of service (1845-1934) are Jas. Brown, Edward Richardson, Jacob Metz, Jonathan Johnson, Thos. Irvin, Martin Dormer, Jas. Kelly, Mrs. M. A. Richardson, Samuel Manteer, Mrs. M. A. Manteer, Seth Orme, Wm. Super, Geo. Heinbach, Harry Marshall, Jos. Denning, Mrs. R. B. Calhoun, Chas. Ferrebee, Simon Devlin, Wm. Thorn, Wm. Collihan.

In 1860, a telegraph office was located within the building of the post office.

Besides the different industries, grocery and general stores served the needs of the settlers of the town proper and the surrounding settlements. Among those who established a store business at a very early date and who were successful for a great number of years were: David W. Lewis, who had his grocery store where the Oliver Swain residence is now situated; Ranslow Boone, who had his place of business at Second and Franklin Sts and this business was later carried on by his sons; Thatcher's grocery store was a prosperous establishment located at Second and Hancock and was later the site of the late W. R. Super's store; Lawton's store was opposite to the Thatcher Store; J. R. Williams had his business establishment on the present site of the late Dr. J. T. Ryan residence; Dawson's was a popular store located a short distance from Ranslow Boone's store. Located on Second St. between Carroll and Lawton were the Schully Store on the present site of Mansell's Store, the Jos. Jones' store on the present site of the Holmes Store. Neiman's Store on the present site of the Raring Store.

Blacksmith shops, prior to 1910 were prosperous enterprises, among the early blacksmiths were Stevenson, Honicker, and Rehnert, whose son continues to carry on the business at present; later Adam Reichert, who carried on his business on the present site of the Andrew McGeogh property, Geo. Denning, who had his shop located near the present site of the Pouchan home, and still later Neumeister, who had his business place at Fourth and Hancock.

No doubt there was a printing shop, bakeries, and other stores shortly after 1850, but records that are available show that printing, bakeries, hat stores did not become popular until the late 80's. The popularity of the Holmes Printing Shop was known throughout the county as in this shop was published the "Splinters," the town's first newspaper. The Beaumont Printing Establishment was a competitor of Holmes at this time. Bakeries became popular through the Brown Shop on Morris St. and Gwinner's on Second St. The hat store of Miss Hattie Wasley located on Second St. a short distance from Hancock St. attracted the fair sex in the 80's from all the districts and towns nearby.

Prior to 1880 the town was not lacking in having a town hall. This hall was first located on the present site of the Schulkind Store and later took formation in Walker's Hall (Denatzko's).

In this introduction, it is hoped some picture of the community at a very early date has been given and with the completion of the important political, social, economic, and religious events discussed at length it is hoped to reconstruct the community during the different periods in which it passed.

ORGANIZATION OF BOROUGH

St. Clair prior to April 6, 1850, was known as St. Clairville, a village in Norwegian Township. As the mining industries increased in number and as the lumber and iron industries prospered, the people in the village petitioned Gov. Wm. Johnson to incorporate the village as a borough.

The first election was held as provided in the Act of Incorporation granted with the permission of the Senate and House of Representatives on May 9, 1850. The first officers elected were: Jacob Metz, pres.; Chas. Lawton, Chief Burgess; Jacob Metz, John May, Michael Reilly, John Williams, Jacob Frantz as members of the Council; John Seitzinger, Justice of Peace; Joel Metz, High Constable; Lott Evans, Town Clerk; Benjamin Jackson, Assessor; Harry Krebs and Daniel Slobig, Assistant Assessors. The School Directors were Daniel Mack, John Lawton, John Williams, John Sandford, Mr. Stocker and Mr. Montiles.

The provisions of the Act of Incorporation give pertinent facts concerning the early organization of the political unit of St. Clair. The Act of Incorporation is in part stated herewith.

"By the permission of the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, St. Clair was incorporated as a borough on April 6, 1850. The Borough of St. Clair shall be comprised within the following boundaries:

"Beginning at a stone which is north 35 degrees, west 3300 feet from the center of the intersection of First and Hancock Sts. Thence north 65 degrees, east 2640 feet to a stone, thence south 25 degrees east, 6600 feet to a stone, thence south 65 degrees west 6280 ft. to a stake, thence north 25 degrees west 6600 ft. to a stake, thence north 65 degrees east 2640 ft. to the place of beginning.

Wards

".....the Borough of St. Clair shall consist of three wards, to be called North Ward, the South Ward and the Middle Ward, the line separating the North and the Middle Ward to commence at the eastern boundary and to be a direct line extending through the middle of Hancock Street to the Western boundary of the said borough, all that portion of said borough lying north of said line to be included in and called the North Ward; the line separating the South Ward from the Middle Ward to commence at the eastern boundary and to be a direct line extending through the middle of.....St. to the western boundary of said borough lying south of the said line to be called and known as the South Ward, and all that portion of the said borough lying between the said lines of Lawton St. and Hancock St. between the North and South Wards to be called and known as the Middle Ward of the said borough."

"Who Shall Vote: All those who resided in the borough six months previous to the election. The first voting place was at the Tavern kept by Jonathan Johnson and to meet on first Monday in May in every year and to elect by ballot between the hours of 9 a. m. and 6 p. m., of the same day to vote for officers to be elected.

"After the election is closed the judge and inspectors shall give notice in writing within 24 hours after the election, to the candidates elected and shall make out a return and deliver it to the town

clerk, who hands the returns to the town council at their first meeting.

"If it should happen through neglect or otherwise that the first election should not be held on the day appointed, in the manner presented it shall be the duty of the justice of peace to give at least eight days' notice of such an election, by at least four advertisements, set up in the most public places in the borough.

"This council shall meet on the first Wednesday after the election to receive and examine the returns of their election. They shall divide themselves into two classes. The first class consisting of three members which shall be vacated at the expiration of their first year, to be refilled by the election of two members for two years and one member for one year.

"The second class is to be vacated at the expiration of two years and to be refilled by two members elected for two years so that each year three may be chosen, one for one year and two for two years. The council shall appoint a president, who shall preside over their meetings, sign all ordinances, convene the board when the occasion may require, and perform such duties as may be enjoined upon them by the ordinance of the council.

"In case of any vacancy of any office it shall be filled by a new election for his term of office within 10 days thereafter by the council.

"The Burgesses and their assistants shall cooperate and have the power of suing, acquire, receive, hold, and possess goods, chattels, lands, tenements, rents, etc..... The officers of this borough shall use a common seal and at their will, can change or alter it Any officer refusing or neglecting his duties shall forfeit and pay the sum of $10.

The officers before taking office shall take an oath or affirmation before a judge or justice of the peace of Schuylkill County, to support the constitution of the United States and the State of Pennsylvania and to perform the duties of their respected offices....."

The signers of the Act of Incorporation are:

J. S. McCalmont, Speaker of the House of Representatives.

V. Best, Speaker of the Senate.

Wm. Johnson, Secretary's Office.

A. W. Benedict, Deputy Secretary of the Commonwealth.

POLITICAL HISTORY

Space does not permit to state the many activities and sacrifices of the borough fathers in bringing about a community of peace, happiness and prosperity to the inhabitants who have dwelt here since 1850-1934. The borough fathers have given their services gratuitously and the citizens have received the full benefits of their efforts.

The members of the town council from the first group to the present incumbents have made Saint Clair a town of which the citizens may be justly proud to be a part. The many improvements from 1850-1934 are a monument dedicated to their efforts. The first officers elected as Councilmen were: Jacob Metz, John May, Michael Reilly, John Williams, Jacob Frantz. Space does not permit to list officers elected from 1851-1934, but we must deem it sufficient to list the 1934 incumbents: Jas. Burns, Frank Schmeltzer, Michael Fitz, John Tierney, Edw. Jacoby, Bernard Long, Francis Keffer, Francis Miller and Edw. Croll with Thos. A. McCarthy, Solicitor.

The chief burgesses of the community from 1850-1934 have played a prominent part in keeping peace

within the limits. The members who have given honor to this office are in order of their service: Chas. Lawton, Metz, J. Hoskins, H. Dix, Theo. Ruffin, D. Morgan, Beaumont, J. Burns, Geo. Frantz, Thos. Hirst, Haverty, Sterner and the present incumbent Wm. Brady.

The high constables who assisted in keeping the peace are in order of service: Joel Metz, Fred Gauden, Geo. Sage, Mike Clark, Ruffin, J. Pollick, C. Beaumont, F. Bosche, Sealey, C. Handework, T. McKernal, J. Little, John Clifford, Geo. Lewis, Daniel Cannon and Edw. Morrow who is the present incumbent.

Justices of the peace also have rendered the community a distinct service. The list includes Theo. Ruffin, Theo. Johnson, Wm. Lee, Mose Parkins, Von Horn, Samuel Seitzinger, John Guithers, Thos. Ferrebee, John Duffy, Samuel Griffith, Washington Orme, Thos. Montgomery, Daniel Duffy, Robert Zimmerman, John Schlottman, Lewis Messick, Charles Reynold, Geo. Boote and W. J. McCarthy who are in service at this date.

Tax collectors have also played a prominent part in the community political functions. The list in order of service is as follows: Michael Kenney, Martin Duffy, Bill Gittens, Jas. Mulroy, Chas. Little, Richard Brown, Jos. Post and Edw. Scherr, the present incumbent.

Allied with the office of tax collector are the assessors. The first assessors were: Benj. Jackson. Henry Krebs, and Daniel Slobig. The last assessors elected were: Wilbur Thomas, Harry Green (dead), Robert Robertson.

From the early beginning to the present time the members of the Board of Education have displayed remarkable foresight in developing at a very early date an educational system which was recognized very early by the higher institutions of this country. Adverse conditions did not retard them in their efforts. Working conditions, the exodus of 1875 and others less prominent, influenced a harmonious development. Today conditions in the community are far from ideal for promoting educational opportunities of the best. But with the fine examples of leadership as illustrated by the records of the past members of the Board of Education, the present incumbents of the Board of Education will carry on the records and fine examples of those who have gone before them.

The first Board of Education comprised the following: Daniel Mack, John Lawton, John Williams, John Sandford, Mr. Stocker and Mr. Montiles. The present members of the Board of Education are: Chas. Llewellyn, Dr. Roland Gould, Dr. Errol T. Jones, John Jacoby, Otto Miller, Sr., Chas. Weller, and David Reese.

ECONOMIC HISTORY

Lumber

The dense forest in this region prompted many settlers to come here and gain a livelihood by lumbering. The large stream that ran through the center of the valley offered a source of power to cut the lumber and also as a means of transportation.

The first step toward the development of the lumber industry began with the construction of a saw mill by Geo. Orwig prior to 1800 at the site of St. Clair. About thirty years later two more saw mills made their appearance, one built just back of the present Methodist Episcopal Church, and the other near John's breaker.

As time went on and the development in the mining industry progressed, the demand for lumber was greatly increased and this introduced another form of lumber activity; namely, the lumber yard.

The first lumber yard was established in 1845 by John L. Geiger, a pioneer lumber merchant. John L. Geiger operated the lumber yard until 1900 when Mr. Kyner, the superintendent of the Hooker Colliery, leased it and was responsible for its continuance for a number of years. Messrs. Arnout, Palmer and Reichley were also lumbermen who had leased the Geiger lumber yard. In 1925, the lumber yard was abolished and the property was divided into residential sections and sold to energetic citizens. The lumber yard was located on Nicholas and Morris Sts., between Carroll and Lawton.

In 1840 Jonathan Hetherington came to St. Clair from Durham, England. He married Catherine Burgett of town. He entered the lumber business by supplying timber to the mining operations in the vicinity. His business establishment was located on the present site of the Polish Catholic Church on N. Nicholas St. In 1865, he retired and moved to Union Twp., where he purchased a farm.

In 1887 Albert Mettam, a well known journeyman carpenter, began contracting and building. He dealt extensively in all kinds of lumber, finished and unfinished as well as planing-mill work.

Albert Mettam, the well known lumber dealer of St. Clair, was the son of John and Elizabeth Mettam. He was born in Hucknall, Torkard, Nottingshire, England, on July 29, 1861. His father was a native and resident of the same town. Mr. Mettam was educated in the common schools of his native country and at the age of twelve years was an apprentice to learn carpentry and building.

December 29, 1883, he married Clara Swain, a daughter of Thos. and Rhada Swain, also residents of his own town, and in 1884 he migrated to St. Clair, where he began his career as a journeyman carpenter. He continued in this capacity until 1887, when he began contracting and building and he also established a lumber yard on North Third St., near which is located his home.

He was a well known figure in municipal affairs and although his educational advantages were somewhat meagre, yet he exhibited a great disposition toward all movements which tended to the general enlightenment of the town. He was a member of the Borough Council for a number of terms and was at one time the Borough Treasurer.

He had three sons, Archibald, Alfred E. and John. Alfred died as a result of a heart attack on Oct. 21, 1902.

Mr. Mettam developed the lumber business considerably until his death on Nov. 12th, 1912, from pneumonia. Upon his death the lumber business was carried on by his sons, Archibald and John, and the name was changed to Mettam Bros. Finally on Feb. 21st, 1922, John Mettam died and the entire business passed into the hands of Archibald Mettam, who is the sole proprietor at the present time, the firm's name remaining unchanged. It is one of the leading lumber yards of the county.

Mining

As early as 1824 mining operations began to make their appearances, and as a result today,

St. Clair is honeycombed by operations which extend in all directions underneath the surface of the community. Many veins were discovered here and have retained to this day the name applied to them at the time of their discovery. The following veins are in the vinicity: Orchard Vein, Primrose, Mammoth, Skidmore, Seven Foot and the Buck Mountain Vein, which is the lowest.

The Orchard Vein overlies the others within the borough limits. It was first opened by John Pinkerton and Co., who in 1850 opened a drift in an apple orchard near the farm house now owned by Samuel Arnout whence the name "Orchard Vein" was given to it. This drift was the first regular coal opening in St. Clair, and from it the first shipments were made. John Holmes with others sunk a slope in the west part of the borough, about 1866, but it was abandoned on account of the thinness of the vein.

The Primrose Vein was opened by several motor level drifts in 1830, near the present site of the Railroad Depot, by Pinkerton and Co. These drifts were worked by different parties until 1843, when Alfred Lawton became the operator in this vein. He was followed by Frank Parvin, who sunk a slope and mined considerable coal, but he encountered a default and abandoned the working. The land owners wishing that the vein would not lose its reputation continued for a time, but finally abandoned it. It was started in a field of primrose flowers which were flourishing at that time and it received its name in that way.

Griffith Jones, superintendent for the Peach Orchard Coal Co., operated a slope in the east part of the borough from 1866 to 1880. These veins in some zones were twelve feet thick. Jones, while operating there, tunneled north to the Holmes Vein, and afterward south to the Orchard Vein.

The Holmes Vein received the the name of its discoverer, Holmes of Ireland. This vein was discovered later than the Mammoth Vein and is the next vein below the Primrose Vein. In 1846 the first shaft was sunk and struck the vein which later has his name. Mr. Holmes was superintendent for McGinnis on his slope and shaft. 1872 Adam Jackson reopened a shaft and built a breaker in the east part of the town. This is called the St. Clair Colliery. June of 1860 David Vipen opened a drift south of Jackson, and in 1866 Thomas Bedford and Burke leased the coal of P. & R. C. & I. Co. and built a breaker at the cost of $1,000. Burke bought Bedford's interest in 1878 and drove a tunnel by himself, and produced good coal. The Mammoth Vein was discovered in 1830. Isaac Beck, who was a paying teller in the Miners Bank, Pottsville, discovered it while washing his hands in the creek where its bed curved around close to the base of the West Hill. He took out a quantity of coal but made no regular opening. In 1835 John Pinkerton leased the coal and drove a gangway about 900 yards west, and opened both drift and slope. Pinkerton mined a large quantity of coal, shipping as much as 100,000 tons a year. About 1831 Samuel Sillyman and E. Evans opened a drift in the Mammoth Vein at Crow Hollow now Pine Forest, and came to High Germany in 1831 and opened a drift. In 1845 Benj. Milnes, Benj. Haywood, and Geo. Snyder sunk a new slope at High Germany and called it Pine Forest. They went fur-

ther up the hill and in 1848 and 1849 sunk Mr. Hope's slope. This firm dissolved in 1853. They sold to the Boston Consolidated Coal Co., about 1864.

The Skidmore Vein found by John Pinkerton and Co., was only 14 inches thick. He found this when driving a tunnel in the Mammoth Vein.

John Pinkerton and Co. continued to drive the tunnel north and he found the Buck Mountain Vein which was only 7 to 10 inches thick.

The different veins which were found in the vicinity of St. Clair gave rise to the building of many collieries. These collieries later developed into the Pine Forest Colliery and the Wadesville Colliery of a few years ago, and the St. Clair Coal Company which traces its origin to the Eagle Colliery, later the Herbine, and still later John's Colliery. A short history of each colliery will aid in reconstructing a picture of large mining operation throughout the past century.

The Parvin's Colliery is the oldest of the collieries. Francis Nicholas in 1825 to 1829 owned and operated it, followed by Potts and Patterson, who continued the work from 1829 to 1836. Joseph Lawton later took it over and was in charge of it from 1836 to 1846, followed by Frank Parvin and Co., 1846 to 1860. It was located north west of the St. Clair Shaft.

The Rain Bow Colliery at Crow Hollow is next to the oldest colliery in this vicinity. The first operators were Ulrich and Schrader. They held it between 1826 and 1836, later succeeded by Maximillian and Wytholl who operated it between 1831 and 1839. Samuel Sillyman operated from 1839 to 1840, a period of one year, then Evans went into partnership with him and they operated it until 1846. Evans dropped out and Sillyman was joined by Fister. They operated it till 1850 when Kirk and Baum took it over and they continued until 1864. After this operation for twelve years, Gross and Clark operated it until 1867, a period of thirteen years. The last persons to operate it were Maurice and Rothermell 1867 to 1868, when in that year it was abandoned. Like the Sillyman Tunnel, it was started in the eastern part of the town.

The Eagle Colliery or later Herbine was started about 1826 by Frederick Hass, who operated it until 1832. Thos. and Wm. Johns operated it from 1844 to 1867. They were succeeded by Geo. W. Johns and Bro., from 1867 to 1882. From these the operation was taken over by P. & R. C. & I. Co., 1882 to 1889. In 1889 two men, by the names of Crockson and Bankes, leased it and they operated it until 1889. It was closed that year and in the same year the St. Clair Coal Co. leased it and are operating it at the present time. It is located at the northern part of the town. From 1824 to 1934 this operation produced approximately 12,000,000 tons of coal.

The Hickory Colliery which was one of the earliest collieries here, was started in 1828 and lasted until 1874 when it was abandoned. Beck and Woodside first operated it from 1828 to 1835, followed by John Pinkerton from 1835 to 1844. Milnes, Haywood and Snyder went into partnership and operated it from 1859 to 1868, and then Hickory Coal Co. had charge of it from 1868 to 1871, and Wm. Draper and Co. took charge from 1871 to 1874. It was located directly across from the St. Clair Coal Co.

The Sillyman Tunnel was started in 1828. The person who started it was Mr. Wetherill, who operated it until 1834. After he had given it up, Francis Nicholas started it in 1834 and he continued to mine it until 1839. Its last owners were Sillyman and Neice. They had left it open from 1839 till 1846. The tunnel was driven in the eastern part of the town.

In 1830 two men by the names of Offerman and Whitenoff opened a drift in the Mammoth Vein. The name of High German was given to it because of the nationality of its settlers: Cary, Lea and Hart.

The Pinkerton Tunnel Colliery was opened in 1830 and operated to 1841 by West, Hudson and Pinkerton, and by John Pinkerton and Whitfield from 1841 to 1853. During this time, in 1844, they drove a tunnel. This colliery was started at the northern end of the town.

Lawton Peacock Colliery, in 1836, was operated by Lawton, Weiner and Co. Chas. Lawton then took charge of it, from 1836 to 1848. Mr. Parvin had charge of it from 1848 to 1852 when it was abandoned. It was located west of St. Clair.

Alfred Lawton and Thos. Haven owned and operated it from 1838 to 1843, and then Lewis and Co. took charge of it and operated it from 1843 to 1852. In 1847 a slope was sunk in it. Mr. Parvin took charge in 1852 to 1858 and was later succeeded by Jackson and Richardson, who operated from 1853 to 1864. This colliery was in the south west part of the town.

Thus we see the possibilities of mining as a factor in making working opportunities here at a very early date, and later, with the abandonment of different operations, the decreases in working opportunities as experienced today.

Miners Supplies

The Miners Supply Co. of St. Clair was engaged in the manufacturing of squibs, for use by miners in firing their blasts. The idea was first suggested to S. H. Daddow by Jesse Beadle. The invention was perfected and patented and a manufacturing plant sprung up. Two kinds of squibs were made, the sulphur and the gas squib.

The squib was up to eight inches long and about one-sixteenth of an inch in diameter. The construction of the squib was simple. Pieces of paper about 8 inches long and about 1-4 inch wide were rolled to form a cylinder about one-sixteenth inches in diameter. These cylinders were then put into a container and the bottoms were sealed with miner's soap. When each of the squibs was taken out the open end was twisted to the left, to close the remaining open end. These were twisted to the left because there were two squib manufacturing plants in St. Clair and the two could not make the same squib. The twisting of the squib to the left gave it its name. It was known as the left-handed squib, made by Daddow. Mr. Hayes made the right handed squib which was twisted to the right to close the open end. The squibs were made and packed by hand, all the work being done by women.

About 1883, Geo. Hayes opened a squib factory and he manufactured the right handed squibs. His factories were located on the corner of Hancock and Nicholas Sts. and the corner of Morris and Hancock Sts. On June 13, 1888, the factory on Nicholas St. burned down and Mr. Hayes moved up a block where Alex Chylack now operates a hotel. Mr. Hayes died about 1880 and his sons carried on a few years and then went out of business.

The Daddow and Beadle Co. was operated for more than 62 years.

With the use of dynamite and fuse the squib was no longer a mining requisite, although the Daddow and Beadle Co. did not cease to operate until 1928.

Miner's Caps

The date of establishment of the cap factory in St. Clair is not known but such a factory was established by S. H. Daddow and a few unknown associates at Patterson and Nicholas Sts. at the old Columbia Hose Co. site. The kind of caps manufactured were miner's caps and the factory was known as the Lattimer Cap Factory. It was named after Lattimer, who was the patentee of an attachment on the miner's cap to hold the light in place.

It should be interesting to know that nine-tenths of the miners caps manufactured in the United States and Mexico were made in the Lattimer Factory at St. Clair at that time.

Shovels

There were also a shovel manufacturing plant in St. Clair. About 1871, the exact date is not known, Mr. Bowen opened a shovel manufacturing shop down where Rhenert's Blacksmith shop now stands. He made shovels for use in the mines of St. Clair and vicinity. He also had a factory where the Mettam Bros. Lumber Yards now stand.

Box Industry

Between 1870 and 1880, a box factory was established by S. H. Daddow (1827-1875) under the management of W. T. Richards, at the site on which the present A. & P. Store is located on North Second St. Paper boxes were manufactured in which the squibs made by Daddow were placed for shipment.

There is no definite knowledge as to the length of time this factory remained in operation on North Second St., but it was later removed to Russell St. at the location of the present Hoffman and Brown garage which is behind the old Daddow Homestead. At this place, Mrs. Parmley acted in the managerial capacity.

Wooden and not paper boxes were made at this lower place for the squibs.

Both places employed only a few women and though the boxes were made very precisely and quickly, the method of manufacture was very crude and simple.

The box factory continued in operation until a recent date when there was no longer a demand for squibs and the industry came to an end in Saint Clair.

Brass Foundry

The Brass Foundry was founded in 1875 by Peter P. Quirin, an immigrant from Germany. He settled in St. Clair in 1854 and lived here until his death in 1891.

The Brass Foundry specialized in brass work but it also was a machine shop where machinery was made and repaired.

Peter P. Quirin was also an inventor. In 1883, he patented a miner's safety lamp, and in 1886 he patented a non-freezing hydrant that was common in this region until lately. Mr. Quirin was master mechanic for the Reading Coal and Iron Co. He took care of the machinery of the collieries in the vicinity until his death in 1891.

After Mr. Quirin's death his two sons took over the Brass Foundry and operated it until 1928, when the oldest son, John, died. His brother operated it for three years longer, until his death. The shop closed down and at present it is not operating.

The shop still stands in the center of the block on Nicholas St. between Carroll and Lawton Sts.

Saint Clair Furnace

The Saint Clair blast furnace was used in obtaining iron from iron ore. Its main output was pig iron, although they made other forms also. The main reason why this furnace was built here was because of the abundant supply of coal to run the industry.

Burd S. Patterson started to build the furnace in 1842, but due to the financial conditions and other minor reasons, work was suspended in 1844. It remained untouched for about twenty years. In 1864 it was finished and put to blast.

Jas. Lannigan then bought and operated the furnace until 1873, when it failed due to unfortunate speculation.

This furnace was then abandoned. Later it fell into the possession of the Reading Co. as they owned the land upon which the furnace stood. While it remained idle it caught fire and practically the whole interior was destroyed. The remains of the furnace were only the walls and the high smoke stacks. The Reading Co. realized how dangerous this was so they decided to destroy it entirely. Wm. Lee of town, then destroyed it by the use of dynamite.

There are many reasons why this industry failed. However the main reason was that it was too expensive to get the iron ore shipped into the town, and also to send the finished product to the consumer. Furnaces are now built in the iron ore fields and coal is sent to the furnace.

Transportation

The first means of transportation was by horse back. The roads were so narrow and rough that this seemed the best way to travel. The first road was the Sunbury Road which was established in 1770. This road was between Sunbury and Reading.

The roads were then improved and wagons were used. The wagons were covered with canvas and drawn by four or five horses. An ordinary load for a wagon was about two to three tons. In order to keep the wagons from going too fast down hill, the men would tie logs to them.

Then came the stage coach, cumbersome, hardseated, but sure with the stage driver, seated high on top, handling the reins over four to six horses, with a dexterity born of long experience. He was looked upon as a hero by those who rode with him and by the youngsters who watched his team gallop by. But this is slow compared to what the present generation enjoys in the way of transportation. The stage coach came twice a week. It took it fifteen hours to go from St. Clair to Phila. It ran between Phila. and Sunbury by way of Port Clinton, Orwigsburg, Schuylkill Haven and Pottsville. The stage coach was first used in this locality in 1811 or 1812. Travel by this method increased rapidly in 1826. The stage coach was first used for carrying mail. In 1845, the mail between St. Clair and Pottsville was carried by stage coach.

The old stage coach, the arrival of its mail and eight passengers, were watched with interest, and is seen no more and is remembered by only a few of the older residents.

Railroads

As in other parts of the country the railroads supplanted the stage coach and canals as a means of transportation in the vicinity of St. Clair.

In 1826 the Danville-Pottsville Railroad Co. ran their railroad from

Mount Carbon to Nichols St., Pottsville, running thence to Wadesville, thence to a plane which led to the 750 foot Girard Tunnel, which was located in the northwest section of St. Clair, thence to the roadbed of the present route of the Pennsylvania Railroad at Darkwater. The construction of this railroad afforded employment to the early settlers in the community. This railroad had a track mileage of forty-seven miles, and Engineer Moncure Robertson estimated the cost of building it to be $687,000 for the single track and $882,000 for the double track. The Girard Tunnel, as the name may imply, was not built by Stephen Girard, but it was given his name because of his influence in hurrying its construction as Girard had planned for some means of transportation of his coal from his coal operations at Girardville to the markets. This company operated only for ten years as it ceased operations in 1836.

In 1829, the Mill Creek Railroad was built from Port Carbon to the southern limits of the borough. In 1845, the Phila. and Reading Railroad extended their tracks through Saint Clair to New Castle at a cost of $15,000. In 1862, the Mahanoy-Broad Mountain Railroad was built and connected its lines at the terminal of the Mill Creek Railroad at New Castle. This new addition gave the impetus to the importance of the transportation of coal through the community.

It was very evident in those early years that Saint Clair was destined to become a great coal center for the southern anthracite field. In 1913, therefore, the largest classified coal yards of the world was built in St. Clair on the site of a large swamp. The St. Clair Coal Yards has a capacity today of 2,010 cars and a track mileage of 46.26 miles. It is planned according to the "gravity type yard" as contrasted with the humps operatings or the push and pull shunting plans. This coal yard has the capacity to employ one thousand and twenty men, of which number twenty-five hold supervising positions. The coal yard has in it carshops which are equipped to make all repairs, and an engine house to make minor repairs. The engine house is large enough to contain fifty-two modern sized locomotives. To witness the different activities that take place in this yard is very interesting. The loaded coal cars leaving the locality, make one marvel as they are weighed on a very modern scale built in 1929 which scale has a capacity of 150 tons, a length of sixty feet, and the capacity to weigh one car every 22 seconds and to adjust itself automatically and record the weight on a card without any human effort being involved. The preparation made for the using of the locomotives makes a visitor pause and witness the different steps the engine dumping its ashes over a pit filled with water and the traveling crane removing the wet and cold ashes to a car nearby; the coaling station near the engine house awaiting the arrival of the engine (moving by means of gravity) where the coal tender is filled with coal from the apartment which contained coal placed in it by cars that had traveled up a plane above the coal apartment; a short distance away the engine moves to the sand supply box where the sand boxes of the engine are supplied; and down the line another short distance the last step which is taken in making the engine ready for dispatching, is the water tower which fills the engine's water tender.

The coal yards contain 35 tracks for coal trains, 28 tracks for car

repair work and 4 main line tracks. It is in this yard that all the trains of empty cars are made up to be taken to Frackville and then lowered over the Mahanoy Plane for distribution to the collieries north of Saint Clair. Trains of loaded cars are also made up here and sent southward to Phila. and all intermediate towns and all other points east and west of Phila.

St. Clair is also afforded service by the Pennsylvania Railroad. This railroad was built in 1885 and operated for the first time in 1887.

Trolleys

The first trolley began to operate in St. Clair on Aug. 10, 1894, via Mill Creek. This was known as the St. Clair long line.

On Oct. 13, 1915, the Pottsville and St. Clair Electric Railway Co. was organized for the purpose of building an electric railway from Pottsville to Saint Clair via Nichols St., this was known as the St. Clair Short Line.

The trolley connected St. Clair with Pottsville, Frackville, Shenandoah, Mauch Chunk, Middleport, Coaldale, Lansford, Schuylkill Haven, Orwigsburg, Fishbach, Port Carbon, Cumbola, Minersville, Coalcastle, Seltzer City. The fare to Pottsville before the World War was five cents; after the War ten cents.

As the traffic declined it was found that the certain rail lines could be operated more cheaply by bus than by trolley car.

Bus and Automobile

The first automobile in St. Clair was a steamer, a single-seated runabout called a "Pope Toledo," named after its manufacturer, M. Pope, of Toledo. It was purchased by H. L. Daddow in 1900, and was one of a carload sold by a traveling salesman to R. J. Mills, who had a bicycle store and men's furnishing store combined at Pottsville.

While Mr. Daddow's was the first in St. Clair, it was not the first however, in the county. Robert Allison, of Port Carbon bought a runabout, called "Winston" with a gasoline engine, about a year before and had been running it on our roads sometimes—probably less than a year before the "Pope Toledo" came around.

It was long before any manufacturer dared to add a second seat for extra passengers, and instead of entering from the side the rear seat passengers entered by a door in the middle of the rear pane. This compartment was known as the "tonneau," which is the French word for "barrel."

The presence of the first pleasure car in St. Clair was the beginning of that motor era which was to antiquate all earlier forms of transportation.

Buses as a means of transportation followed the gas-propelled pleasure cars. The first practical use for the bus was to carry different groups of people to parties or picnics. Later buses began to be used as a means of transportation of children to distant schools. But as improvements in highways were being made they began to be used more extensively in carrying people from different towns to or from distant places at a regular scheduled time.

There were many necessary improvements made in buses in order to make traveling more convenient and comfortable. One of the greatest improvements however was the substitution of the 40 passenger bus for the 21 passenger bus.

The Reading Lines were first introduced in St. Clair, May 27, 1928. Those lines were chiefly introduced

in this town in order to act as a substitute for train service to nearby towns. The Reading buses are operated on a regular schedule making eight round trips daily.

The East Penn Transportation Company buses were introduced in St. Clair, Sept. 10, 1932. The main reason for this introduction was to replace the trolley car. This company operates different sizes of buses, some having greater capacity than others. They operate the 21, 25, 29 and 33 passenger bus. The St. Clair-Pottsville route is the heaviest route in the estimation of this company, and due to this fact, they have accepted the 33 passenger bus to cover this route.

This company operates on a regular schedule, entering St. Clair every half hour on week days and every twenty minutes on Saturdays and Sundays. They live up to this schedule by attaining an official rate of speed of 35 miles per hour, which is the requirements of the state law.

Another bus line, known as the "Lake To Sea," is at present, operating through the town. This line covers the routes included between Cleveland, Ohio, and New York City, N. Y.

The Schuylkill Railway Bus Co. began its operation after the abandonment of its trolley.

Banks

The Citizens Bank, 39 N. Second St., St. Clair, was the first bank organized in the Borough, since it gave the community a modern banking service for a period of over 28 years. This bank was chartered March 16, 1904.

The bank opened for business May 16, 1904, in the Geo. W. Gwinner property on N. Second St. In 1906-1907 a new building was erected by the board of directors at a cost of $45,000.

The St. Clair State Bank was chartered by the State of Pennsylvania Aug. 14, 1919 and commenced business in the Holmes Building, South Second St., Sept. 18, 1919.

In 1924 a new building was erected on the corner of Second and Carrol Sts., the largest edifice in town, which was occupied for business Feb. 24, 1925. The building is constructed of Indiana Limestone and houses in addition to the bank, the Post Office, several apartments and a number of offices and a recreation hall.

The institution was merged with the Citizens Bank in March 1932. The Commissioner of Banking took possession of the consolidated Bank on Sept. 30, 1933.

St. Clair Saving Funds

Saving Funds and Building Associations had a long history to them in St. Clair.

The Union Saving Fund and Building Association was organized June 16, 1869, with 2,200 shares, and had issued six series of stock. The monthly receipts of the society to the year 1878 average $3,250. The shares were all withdrawn about 30 years ago. The object of these associations was to give an opportunity for members to obtain interest on their money, and for others to obtain loans for building purposes or paying mortgages which may be paid in small monthly installments. The officers were: Jos. Townsend, Pres.; W. J. McCarthy, Secy., and Chas. Short, Treas. This corporation has long since been liquidated.

The St. Clair Saving Fund and Building Association was organized Sept. 16, 1867, with 1,400 shares. The monthly receipts for the year 1878 averaged $1,300. This corporation has long since been liquidated, also.

Our Town Building and Loan Association was organized in 1909. It has provided the finances for many St. Clair homes, and also the means for many shareholders to save money. The present officers are: W. A. Boone, W. J. McCarthy. Jos. H. Scherr, T. A. McCarthy, M. B. Sullivan, H. R. Moyer, W. A. Stephens and M. W Malia.

MANUFACTURING OF TODAY

Shirt Factories

At present there are three shirt factories in St. Clair. The Everett Shirt Factory, which originated in the Prominent Shirt Factory, is located on the corner of Second and Franklin Sts The Frackville Manufacturing Co. is located on Third St., and the H. D. Bob's Shirt Factory is situated on the corner of Morris and Railroad Sts.

In the last five years the Everett Shirt Factory has changed ownership three times. When it was first erected, it was known as the Prominent Shirt Factory. Later, with the transfer of ownership, it became the Tru-Bilt Factory. In 1933, it was again sold, and it became the present Everett Shirt Factory.

This factory employes at least 175 workers. The other two factories, the Frackville and H. D. Bob's, employ 136 and 120 workers respectively.

Ice Plant

The ice plant, established in June, 1921, sent out its first cake of ice on the sixth of that month. Jos. Grosskettler and Burton Davis were the owners. It was enlarged in 1922.

Improvements were first made in 1927. Some of the improvements were: Single dump to double dump, hand crane to electric crane, single hoist to double hoist, cloudy ice to transparent ice.

Some additional improvements were made in 1928, such as the shell and tube condensor instead of the coil condensor to change the ammonia from liquid to vapor.

The yearly output has been increased from 5,000 to 8,000 tons. When they had one machine, the daily output was 30 tons, but then increased to 63 tons with three machines.

The ice plant was incorporated in 1931 by the Laws of Delaware.

St. Clair Dairy

Oct. 1, 1922, the first pasteurizing plant was organized in St. Clair, under the proprietorship of Edw. Honicker and Walter Stephens. The first man employed was Melvin Heinback, who with the proprietors conducted the plant. The route, consisting of St. Clair and Pottsville, delivered 180 quarts. These deliveries were conveyed by two trucks.

In 1933, 17 boys were employed and two office girls. The daily output of milk is approximately 2,500 quarts, covering the following territories: Shenandoah, Frackville, Girardville, Port Carbon, Palo Alto, Cumbola, New Phila., Heckscherville, Wadesville, St. Clair, Pottsville. Today eight trucks convey these deliveries.

EDUCATION

In the realm of education, St. Clair has a niche of its own. In 1834, private schools were established by several families, and among these were the Evans, Nicholas, Burgett and French families. The instructors of these schools were Nancy March, Sarah Runk, Sarah McNair, Richard Grunby,

Miss Boyle, Ralph Branch and Mr. McCamant.

The first public school came into existence in 1838, and had as its head, Benj. Jackson, who came to St. Clair from Catawissa. The building in which he taught was located in the borough cemetery, and was used both as a school and a church. The work begun in education by Jackson was augmented by his successors, and among whom were John Calburn, Isaac Breach, James Stokes, Esther Evans, Washington H. Lawrence, Benj. French and Wm. Porter.

In 1848, Mrs. Shippen taught in a house which served the purpose of a school, located on the site of the Jos. Townsend property. In the following year, P. D. Burnett and Wm. Porter acted in the capacity of teachers in the Creek school house, which was erected in 1846. A year later, Theo. Thompson became an assistant to Barnett, and in 1851 he replaced Barnett as principal, and he remained in this position for 14 years.

In 1862, a brick building was completed on Nicholas St., during the term of Louis Reese as Pres. of the Board of Education. By 1870, a building occupying the John Rudd property, was built. At this time there were 500 pupils enrolled, and a teaching staff of 12 members.

Therefore, in 1881, the school system of St. Clair consisted of three buildings, but the total enrollment was increased during a period of 10 years to 900.

In 1892, a building was erected which replaced the old Creek school house, and this new building was used as the high school until a structure was erected in 1909, at the corner of Mill and Carroll Sts.

In 1893, the first parochial school came into existence, and was known as the St. Boniface parochial school. The enrollment of this school at the present consists of 60 pupils, taught by three nuns.

In 1914, St. Mary's Church, under the guidance of the Revs. Degan and O'Kane, constructed a $30,000 edifice for school purposes. At the present time there are 338 students, who are being taught by six nuns. The rooms at present are overcrowded, because of the recent increase in the enrollment.

The advances from the past to the present in affording opportunities to the youth of the community for acquiring an education may be portrayed by relating activities in the lives of some of the outstanding leaders in the school system of the community. It is with the stories of these leaders that we are able to witness vividly the advances made in education in this community.

The first definite record of organized school supervision came shortly after the Civil War.

In 1862, Richard Brown, who had lost the use of his right arm in the battle of Fredericksburg, returned to his home at St. Clair, and under the instructions of Major Wren, his commander, who sponsored him. attended the Orwigsburg Academy, where he prepared himself for school teaching. A school was organized for him, and within the next 10 years he had reached the head of the schools which were placed under his direction, as what is probably the first of the high school principals in the town. He continued at this post for eight years, when he took over the superintendency, while his protege, T. G. Jones, became the high school principal. Mr. Jones became school superintendent upon the death of Mr. Brown in 1883.

Mr. Brown and Mr. Jones were inseparable companions, and Mr. Jones attributed much of his success to his preceptor, who not only encouraged him in his work, but spent many of his Saturdays in furthering his ambitions.

Mr. Jones, for 52 years, held the helm in deciding the course and progress to be made in education for St. Clair. Mr. Jones spent his summer vacations as a breaker boy. He secured his first teaching position in a unique way. Geo. Rogers, Secy. of the Board of Education, visited the high school in order to select a teacher. As the story is related, Mr. Jones was his choice because of "his aptness, height and huskiness." After being distinguished by this choice, he passed a test under Co. Supt. of Schools Newlin, on the ability displayed in mathematics. He began his teaching at $22 per month of 22 days. Later, Mr. Jones attended Normal School at Port Carbon, which institution was functioning at the time by the instruction of Co. Supt. of Schools Newlin and Prof. G. W. Weiss. As a result of this instruction, Mr. Jones obtained a "permanent certificate." Each year continuously, Mr. Jones pursued courses in different fields to make him a better teacher.

During the principalship of Dr. Nathan Schaeffer at the Keystone State Normal School in 1886, Mr. Jones came out second in a graduating class of 42 members, after pursuing courses of study at home for a period of two years, and at the end of which ordeal they submitted to a four-day examination to be eligible for their diploma of graduation. Later, he pursued courses of study at Lafayette College in German, French, Logic, Psychology and Chemistry.

Mr. Jones was long remembered by the success he made in preparing many miners for mine foremen. He has the reputation, also of not having one pupil who failed before the county superintendent in submitting to different examinations.

Mr. Jones witnessed the members of the teaching staff dwindling from 12 to nine members during the exodus of 1875, and the later increase to 28 members. He witnessed the enrollment increasing from 500 pupils to 1,600 pupils. He witnessed the high school pass from a two year course to a three year course, with 12 extra branches, and before his retirement, played an active part in making plans for the present four year high school. His successor was W. J. Evans, who was highly recommended as his successor, and who had much experience under the excellent guidance in supervising as given during Mr. Jones' 14 years of actual supervising in developing the school system.

Besides his regular duties as an instructor, Mr. Jones also taught night school for working boys and adults for a period of about 20 years. He also taught summer school for about 12 years, and also had classes of teachers preparing for examination.

As a teacher, Mr. Jones was noted for his thoroughness and efficiency in the rudiments. He produced exceptional grammarians and orthographers. Many of his pupils have distinguished themselves as members of the clergy, in the field of medicine, law and the teaching profession, all living testimonials to the man as a teacher. Mr. Jones retired in 1922, and three years later "he crossed the bar," as he himself termed death.

On Jan. 2, 1904, W. J. Evans succeeded W. S. Thomas as grammar school principal in the Nicholas St. building. In the fall of 1905, he succeeded W. W. Wood as the grammar school principal of the South Ward.

In the Fall of 1910, Mr. Evans was elected Principal of the High School succeeding T. G. Jones who had been Principal and who was advanced to newly created position of Supervising Principal. The High School was moved into the new High School Building just completed in the fall of 1910 and that year was rated for the first time as a two-year High School. In 1911, it was rated as a three year High School.

Mr. Evans continued as the High School Principal until 1922. All this time, the High School was regarded as one of the strongest three year High Schools in the State.

In 1918, Mr. Evans was instrumental in installing the School Saving System in the St. Clair Schools. Although common in Schools of today, it was the second saving system established in Schuylkill County. During the World War, the St. Clair High School rated among the highest in the entire Country. The student body averaged 17.50 per student in the War Stamp and 48.50 per student in the Liberty Bonds.

When T. G. Jones retired in 1922, Mr. Evans was unanimously elected Supervising Principal. The erection of the present High School Building was completed which gave full time to all the School pupils of the town. Before the erection of the present High School Building, fourteen grade schools or about seven hundred school children were on part time. At that time, the grade schools consisted of seven Primary Schools, five advanced Primary, four Secondary, three subgrammar and two Grammar Schools. Mr. Evans regraded the schools into eight grades from first to eighth grades as they are today. The second move was the installation of the Fourth year in High School, making the St. Clair High School a first grade High School. He installed and organized the School Library which became one of the most effective School Libraries in the entire County. He continued as Supervising Principal until Jan. 1, 1928, all the time installing definite and specific courses of study in each grade and improving the schools to keep pace with the progress of the times.

In the Fall of 1927, Mr. Evans was urged by hundreds of his friends throughout the County to become a candidate for Prothonotary and although opposed by the County Organization, was elected, receiving one of the highest votes ever given a candidate for County Office. On Jan. 1, 1928, he took office and resigned Supervising Principal.

Mr. Evans was replaced in 1928, by C. R. Birch who was a student, teacher, and principal of the St. Clair Schools. Mr. Birch, the present Supervising Principal, served two and a half years as a teacher in the High School and two years as Principal of the High School. During his term of six years in the capacity of Supervising Principal, he, like his predecessors, wrought changes for the advancement of educational opportunities as advocated by our modern educators. During his brief leadership he has made possible a qualified teacher for every pupil, that is, all teachers of the primary and elementary grades have attained at least the equivalent of a Normal School Certificate and in the High School all

teachers have attained at least the equivalent of a Four Year College Provisional Certificate.

Mr. Birch is very adequately prepared for his administrative position having received the Degrees of Bachelor of Arts and Master of Arts in 1923 and 1926 respectively. He is at the present time pursuing courses at the University of Pennsylvania in preparation for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Education.

In the elementary schools, courses in science and guidance have been added to the regular curriculum. Social studies have become the motivated interest for integrating the entire subject matter of the prescribed course of study. The elementary schools have been departmentalized in the seventh and eighth grades department, in the fifth and sixth grades, and partially in the third grade. All of the equipment for these schools is now thoroughly modern.

Perhaps the most noticeable advance is manifested through the agencies of extra-curricular, music, dramatics, and athletics. Largely through the efforts of Mr. Birch these activities have assumed an evident place in Schuylkill County and the school system has become really a community interest.

The school population of St. Clair is 2034; 1652, of which 531 are high school pupils belong to the public schools, while 382 are enrolled in St. Marys and St. Boniface's parochial schools. Although the schools at present are very much crowded the system is maintaining its efficiency and is classed by the State Department as a first class school.

During the regime of Mr. Birch from January, 1928 to January, 1934, many changes in accordance with modern educational practice have transpired.

The secondary curriculum has been definitely expanded and enriched to afford students the maximum opportunities in preparing for their later careers. In the secondary schools the courses have been arranged into departments; the academic, which prepares for college, the commercial, which is fundamental for business and the general, which aims to lay the foundation for general culture. New courses in French, Spanish, Ancient History, and Commercial Arithmetic have been added to the curriculum. Physical Education as a part of the curriculum has been organized and expanded to meet the requirements of the State Department of Education for a four year high school. Music has also become a part of the high school curriculum. Through the efforts of the present supervising principal Library Science has become a functioning part of the curriculum in care of a full time Librarian. Clubs and other agencies of an extra curriculum nature now play an important part in helping students to adapt themselves to society and their relationships with their fellow citizens.

Within the last decade death has caused us to recall other than supervisors who have performed long and distinguished service in our school system.

W. W. Wood died Dec. 5, 1925. Mr. Wood spent 30 years in the teaching profession, beginning in Frackville and changing to St. Clair where he was principal of the grammar school. He attended the Keystone Normal School, the Millersville Normal School and Lebanon Valley. Mr. Wood was an earnest Shakespearian student and extolled the virtues of that dramatist

in his classroom. His belief was that success in life would accrue only through energy, diligence and effort duly applied. At all times he commanded the respect and good will of the student body, the survivors of whom today revere his memory. Always an ardent follower of the teaching profession, he, however, entered the business world in 1905 in the realm of the real estate and insurance business and ended his life with a successful business career after finishing a very successful teaching career.

Miss Annie Kerns Brown was born in St. Clair and completed thirty years of service as teacher in the school system of St. Clair, in Nicholas St., Front St., and Town Clock school buildings. Miss Brown died Sept. 28, 1929 leaving behind a service that will be long remembered.

Wm. Smith Thomas was born in Jefferson, Pembrokshire, Wales, on April 16, 1850. He attended the Millersville State Normal School and Pierce's Business School of Philadelphia. He dedicated 26 years of life to the teaching profession, teaching in the schools of Wadesville and St. Clair. Mr. Thomas ten years after he left the teaching profession, died Nov. 13, 1930.

In paying some tribute to those leaders of the school system and those teachers who have passed from this life, the history of the school system would not be complete unless we mention some facts concerning Miss Julia E. O'Brien who is the sole survivor of having a record of teaching fifty-two years. Miss O'Brien served her first term in Frackville and the remaining fifty-one years was spent in the school system of St. Clair. Her conscientious and unselfish devotion to duty has placed her in a position of esteem which few members of the teaching profession attain. Her students remember her as their model teacher.

To conclude the history of education, it is well, since we have dealt in some detail with the past, to summarize conditions which have come about because of past events. Today there is an enrollment of 1652 students. The schools are very much over-crowded, and because of this fact alone, are far from ideal to afford educational opportunities of the best. Those men and women who are instrumental in carrying on and keeping pace with the highest type school system of today according to position are:

High School Building—Chas. R. Birch, Supervising Principal; Florence L. Davis, Music Supervisor; Isaac L. Padfield, Art Supervisor.

High School—Elwood S. Bodenhorn, Principal, Science; Francis J. Noonan, Social Studies; Mary E. Monahan, English; Phoebe C. Evans, Mathematics; Evan J. Evans, Mathematics; Mary J. McCarthy, Latin; Francis P. McCullough, Social Studies; W. Reese Super, English, History; Francis Welker, Science; John Reese, History; David G. Evans, English; Margaret C. Ray, Commercial; Anna T. Quirin, Commercial; Louise Meinhold, Librarian; Bessie Eagan, Asst. Librarian; Allen Sterner, Physical Education.

Grades 7-8—Alfred D. Roberts, Mary V. Corcoran, Kate M. Beck, Mary N. Sullivan. Anna L. Lundy, Esther A. Botzer, Kathryn V. Farne.

Front Street, Grades 5-6—Margaret J. Monahan, Martha I. Moser, Elizabeth Baldwin, Anna May Super, Eleanor R. MacDonald, Ruth C. Weber, Margaret Morris, Mary Dodds, Grade 2; Grade 1—Jane Mansell, Bessie G. Beese.

South Ward—Belle Davis, Alberta L. Hughes, Edith W. Brown, Margaret M. Siney, Edith V. Haines, Fannie Reese.

Nicholas Street—Faith B. Wright, Violet C. Gorman, Rhoda Swain, Sara R. Gannon, Ida L. Krebs.

PROFESSIONS

The first physician in the town of St. Clair was Dr. Senderling. Following him were: Dr. Corryell, Dr. Halbauer, Dr. Dunlap, Dr. Price, Dr. Smith, Dr. Carr, who some years later went to Philadelphia and his practice was then taken up by Dr. R. T. Weaver of Pottsville, Penna. As the town grew in population the physicians increased, among them being: Dr. Harry Davis, Dr. Morris who received his training at the Jefferson Medical School, Dr. R. T. Weaver, a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania, the late Dr. John T. Ryan of the Jefferson Medical School, Dr. VasStein of the University of Penna., Dr. Anthony Miller, of Hahnemann Medical School, Dr. Chas. Delp of Jefferson Medical School, Dr. Errol T. Jones of the Hahnemann Medical School, Dr. Otto Miller of the Hahnemann Hospital, Dr. Sayre who is continuing his practice at Louisville, and Dr. Charles W. Gwinner a veterinarian, residing at Mechanicsville.

St. Clair can claim to be the birthplace of two exceptionally noted physicians. They are: Joel T. Boone who for the past three administrations attended the President and his household. Dr. Beck, well known research worker and inventor of the Cardio-Valvultome, an instrument to operate on the heart.

As far back as can be traced there has been six dentists. They were: Dr. Berger; Dr. Kantner, who resided at Port Carbon; Dr. R. C. Gould, a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania; Dr. Buchanan, who left town and is continuing his practice at Easton. Dr. Gould is the only dentist in town at present.

The first druggist in St. Clair was Wm. Bauer and was followed by Harry Davis, son of Dr. Davis. Harry Gwinner, John Smith, David Buchanan and Wm. Collihan.

Closely allied to the medical profession is that of the mortician. Mr. Bretz was the first undertaker in St. Clair. He was followed later by Messrs. Edward Koch and Fred Koch, the latter residing in a suburb of Philadelphia. Then followed: Kyran Monahan, Walter Morgans, Arthur Roman and Michael Collihan.

Private schools in 1830-1880 were popular, the first being erected in 1834 and had the following teachers: Miss Nancy March, Miss Sarah Runk, Miss Sarah McNair and a Miss Doyle. Among the men were Richard Grennly, Ralph Branch and a Mr. McCormant.

Educative sentiment increased rapidly and the first free school was erected in 1883 and had for its teacher Benjamin Jackson of Catawissa. The first principal was Henry Jackson. St. Clair is proud to be the birthplace of Prof. Griffiths of Bucknell and Prof. Haydn Jones of Chicago, and Prof. Geo. Farne of Lehigh University.

The first lawyers in St. Clair were Jos. Brown, Chas. Breckons and M. J. Boone. At present there are three, those being T. A. McCarthy, Jeremiah Mahoney and Elwyn Jones and Martin Duffy who resides in Pottsville.

Two sons have made their way into professional baseball. Jack Titus played many years in the outfield of the Philadelphia Nationals, and retired about seventeen

years ago. Edward Delker, who is only twenty-six years of age played with Topeka team in 1927 and last season played in the infield of the Philadelphia Nationals and the 1934 season will find him in the same position with the St. Louis Cardinals.

This chapter of the history should not be closed unless some mention is made of Captain James Francis Carter who was the only son to be graduated from Annapolis. He was born in 1869 in St. Clair and received his early education here. He entered the teaching profession for a short time in the Blythe Township schools. In 1887, Congressman C. N. Brumm received for him an appointment to the United States Naval Academy. He entered that institution in March, 1887 and graduated with high honors in 1891.

During the Spanish-American War, he was a Junior-Lieutenant on the U. S. S. Mayflower, the admiral's flagship, in the Battle of Santiago. He saw active service in the Boxer rebellion and in the Haitian rebellion. During the World War he was made Commander of the U. S. S. Connecticut, a ship that was distinguished for the services rendered in transporting thousands of our Americans back and forth across the Atlantic.

Following the close of the war, Captain Carter was appointed to study at the War College in Boston as a preparation for his promotion to the rank of Rear Admiral. However, this preparation was never completed as he was seized with a severe illness and was retired from active duty in 1921. He died suddenly at Pasadena, California, on Jan. 25, 1931.

Captain Carter received many distinctions and awards throughout his career, the last of which was the service "Croix de Guerre" for meritorious work in the World War.

ST. CLAIR FIRE DEPT.

The first hose company to be organized in St. Clair was the Hope Hose Co. No. 1 in 1867 and was reorganized in 1880. The Columbia Hose Co. No. 2 was organized in 1868 and is the oldest company in the Borough. The Alert Fire Co. No. 1 petitioned the council to turn over to them all the equipment of the Old Hope Co. The Rescue Hook and Ladder was No. 3 and was organized June 22, 1883. Then came the Phoenix Fire Co. No. 4. Then the Independent Hose Co. No. 1 was organized on Diener's Hill in August, 1915.

The Alert Co. No. 1 was organized 1883 and was 50 years old in 1933. The following officers were elected: Pres., John Brown; Vice Pres., John Schuster; Secy., Louis Farne; Asst. Secy., A. G. Evans; Treas., Wm. M. Mathews.

In December, 1884, the Company decided to purchase a house of its own. As their funds were low they had to borrow more and mortgage their property for the rest. It was an old dwelling house and was remodeled into a fire house in 1889. They purchased their first fire engine. Again the Company went into the hole and had to mortgage their property and give notes in order to clear out of the debt. In 1889 the Company decided to build a new house and had to borrow more money. In 1902 they purchased a chemical wagon. The wagon was tested and approved in July, 1902.

A new building was again proposed in 1911, and the next year they purchased an auto truck. In August, 1919, they purchased an ambulance wagon. The present membership is 163.

Columbia Hose Co. No. 2

Columbia Hose Co. No. 2 was organized in 1868 in a small house near the present site of George Boothe. Application for a charter was made on Dec. 23, 1872 and was granted May 5, 1873. The officers and members of the application were as follows: Pres., Paul Hirst; Vice-Pres., Eugene Berdanier; Sec., Ralph Berdanier; Treas., William Betz. The charter members were: John Bosche, Nicholas Neider, Lewis Krebs, Edwin Brown, Joseph Cox.

The first hand carriage that the Company had was the second oldest carriage in Schuylkill County. The Company bought a property on Front and Lawton Sts., for $750. The Hose House was built on Front and Lawton Sts., November, 1893 by Kehler and Hovel. The Company was motorized on Dec. 7, 1920. On Jan. 3, 1922 the building was burned to the ground, but the truck was saved.

The present Hose House was built on Dec. 23, 1927 and a new Seagraves Triple Combination Pumper was purchased. The Company is fully uniformed and equipped. It has a membership of 75.

Present officers are: Pres., Michael Kupstan; Vice-Pres., Joseph Costy; Financial Sec., Chas. Fatula; Recording Secretary, Jos. Petrozzina; Treas., Steven Herman.

The Company's oldest active member is Thos. Williams, who joined July 21, 1879 and has seen 52 years of service.

Rescue Hook and Ladder Co. No. 3

Rescue Hook and Ladder Co. No. 3 was organized Jan. 10, 1898. First meeting was held at the home of W. W. Thorn and the name adopted. The first officers were: Pres., W. W. Thorn; Vice Pres., Wm. Stephenson; Sec., P. F. Lundy; Treas., Thos. G. Jones.

At a meeting of the Borough Council Feb. 4, 1898, the Company was granted the use of the Town Hall for storing apparatus. On March 8, 1898 the Borough Council purchased a Gleason & Bailey Hook and Ladder Truck for this Company at a cost of $700. This Company purchased a plot of ground from W. A. Boone on N. Second St., for $100. On Sept. 23, 1904, this Company decided to build a brick and tile building on this lot. The building consisted of a basement 28 feet by 48 feet, second floor containing a parlor, meeting room, recreation room. Total cost of building was $9,750 and was financed by the Citizens Bank.

A truck was purchased on May 15, 1922 costing $9,400. The truck consisted of ninety H. P. motor and carries 234 feet of ladder, two 50 gallon chemical tanks and other modern fire apparatus.

The present officers are: Pres., James Powell; Vice Pres., John F. Farrell; Sec., James L. Ward; Treas., Martin J. Monaghan.

Independent Hose Co. No. 1

The Independent Hose Co. No. 1 of (Mill Creek) St. Clair, was organized August, 1915, and received a charter Oct. 25, 1915.

The first officers were: Pres., Walter Smith; Recording Sec., Robert Barnes; Financial Sec., Michael Morley; Treas., Edwin Sterner; Trustees, James Wintz, Walter A. Sterner, Archibald Russell. All were residents of East Norwegian Township.

At the present time Company No. 1 is free from debt and is thinking of enlarging the present Hose House and purchasing modern fire fighting apparatus. The present officers are: Pres., George Balulis;

Vice Pres., Leo Kuchinsky; Financial Sec., John Curry; Treas., James Kennedy; Fire Chief, Michael Hudak. The present membership is about twenty.

Monument Associations

The people of St. Clair were among the first to agitate the subject of a monument to the memory of those who died for their country in the Civil War A society was formed under the name of the St. Clair Monument Association, and a committee was appointed to raise the necessary funds. The monument was procured at a cost of $2,600. It was erected in the Odd Fellows Cemetery, and dedicated on Thanksgiving Day, 1874. The association disbanded April 3rd, 1876 and turned over the amount of funds on hand, $536.71 to the G. A. R. in care of which the monument was placed.

The G. A. R. members cared for the Monument and plot of ground until Jan. 21, 1916, when at that time a committee from the I. O. O. F., P. O. S. A., and O. of I. A., took charge and collected enough money to have the plot of ground and the monument perpetuated and is now kept in repair by the Odd Fellows Cemetery Association. The money which was used to keep this in repair was received from contributions. Among those who had contributed were: The P. O. S. A.; I. O. O. F.; O. of I. A.; St. Michael's Greek Union; St. Clair Girls Club, and High School and the Public Schools.

LODGES

Order Of Independent Americans

St. Clair, Council No. 933, Order Of Independent Americans was instituted Jan. 17, 1896. It had forty charter members.

The first officers were elected Jan. 17, 1896 and are as follows: Jr. Past. Councilor, Geo. Hablett; Councilor, David Davis; Vice Councilor, Geo. L. Miles; Rec. Secty., Joseph H. Jones; Assistant Rec. Secty., Wm. Cresswell; Financial Secty., Jno. Taylor; Treasurer, Oscar Martin; Chaplain, David Griffiths; Conductor, Geo. E. Williams; Warden, Thos. Hablett; Inside Guard, Wm. Howells; Outside Guard, Harry Dress.

Trustees: Noah Williams, George Harris, Jno. Longhenry.

The following were charter members: Wm. Childs, Wm. Cresswell, Wm. Howells, Geo. E. Williams, Jno. Longhenry, Jos. H. Hablett, David N. Davis, Wm. B. Webb, Ambrose Gehring, Henry P. Martain, Geo. L. Miles, Geo. D. Jones, Ellis Longhenry, Rathburn Lewis, Wm. Hart, Elsworth Evans, Jno. Martin, Wm. J. Roberts, Jno. M. Reese, Wm. Llewellyn, Noah Williams, Jno. Beadle, Wm. H. Hart, Frank Martain, Geo. Harris, Jno. W. Taylor, Harry Dress, David Griffiths, Geo. Fisher, Oscar Martin, Thos. Gehring, Geo. Hablett, Fred Jones, Ed. Fisher, Abraham Mills, Jos. Blakeley, Jno. Tiley, Chas. T. Wiggam, Wash. Houseknecht, Jas. H. Jones.

The organization has always taken an active part in all the affairs of the Borough of Saint Clair.

In December, 1933, the following men were their present officers: Jr. Past Councilor, Wm. Smith; Councilor, Ambrose Webb; Vice Councilor, Jno. Morrison; Rec. Secty., W. A. Reese; Assistant Rec. Secty., Jno. Longhenry, Jr.; Financial Secty., Wm. A. Webb; Treasurer, Wilmer Hoffman; Warden, Frank Hepner; Conductor, Fred Scherr; Inside Guard, Thos. Gregory; Outside Guard, Thos. Webb; Trustees, W. A. Webb, Wm. Smith, George Tucket.

The lodge meets every Friday night in the P. O. S. A. Hall on South Front St.

The Masonic Organization

The Anthracite Lodge (No. 285) of the Free and Accepted Masons was constituted Dec. 5, 1853 and established its hall at 41 North Second St.

The Past Masters in order of service are: *Jonathan Johnson, *Theo. Thorn, *Louis Koch, *Daniel K. Slobig, *Henry M. Chambers, *Roland Whitfield, *John Pollock, *Daniel Lewis, *Wm. G. Burwell, *Abraham K. Whitner, *Clay W. Evans, *Edw. Herbert, *Thos. A. Nicholas, *David Tucker, *Jas. Blacker, *Wm. S. Thomas, *Jas. Patten, *Chas. Short, Chas. H. Short, Chas. E. Breckons, *Wm. P. Jones, *Fred H. Krebs, *Thos. E. Ferrebee, *Thos. C. Cockill, *Wm. J. Warren, *John H. Davis, *Chas. J. Johnson, Jos. A. Beir, *Wm. E. Super, *Jas. W. Thomas, Wm. J. Evans, *Thos. G. Jones, Frank C. Yingst, Jos. P. Morris, Wm. T. Taylor, *Wm. B. Lewis, Harry T. Davis, *Alfred D. Roberts, *James S. Reese, Clarence R. Stevens, *John G. Samuels, Huston R. Moyer, Percy Reese, John H. Winn, Wm. W. Thorn, Wm. J. Marbaker, David Reese, Thos. R. Millington, Chas. B. Williams, Chas. E. Roberts, J. Leslie Davis, Nathaniel S. Sterner, Geo. W. Johns, Samuel H. Daddow, Evan Reese. *—(Deceased).

The present elective officers are: Brother Joseph N. Foster, Jr., Worshipful Master; Brother John M. Farne, Senior Warden; Brother Abram H. Jones, Junior Warden; Brother Samuel H. Daddow, P. M. Treas.; Brother David Reese, P. M. Secretary; Brother Chas. H. Short, P. M., Brother Huston R. Moyer, P. M., Brother Percy Reese, P. M., Trustees; Brother Frank C. Yingst, P. M., Representative in Grand Lodge.

The Ivorites

Bee Lodge No. 1, of Ivorites was instituted at the home of Wm. P. Williams, March 14, 1863. It was a beneficiary and literary society. Its first officers were: Thos. Jones, Pres.; Thos. M. Jones, Vice-Pres.; John Watkins, Secty. Later these officers presided: Lewis Evans, Pres.; Chas. Evans, Vice-Pres.; Shen Richards, Secty.; Wm. Jenkins and Wm. Reese, Stewards; Wm. Thomas, Leader. The treasury had contained $3,000. The number of members was 101. This was the oldest lodge in America under the name of Ivorites. All the accounts were kept and the business transacted in the Welsh language. It ceased functioning in the early eighties. It was long remembered by the manner in which it paid honor to its members at time of death. The words "Aelod Wedi Mario" (a member is dead) appeared over the doorway of the home of the deceased members.

P. O. S. of A.

Washington Camp No. 75, Patriotic Order Sons of America organized March 9, 1867, as Patriotic Order Junior Sons of America and was re-chartered Jan. 26, 1879 as Washington Camp No. 75 P. O. S. of A. with the following charter members: B. F. Seligman, H. C. Frantz, D. A. Seligman, Thos. P. Evans, W. S. Roerig, R. B. Hayes, Albert Farne, Clay W. Evans, Geo. Farne, A. D. Shoener, Samuel Holmes, Benjamin F. Crawshaw, W. H. Holmes, John Evans, B. I. Schaefer, D. W. Shoener, Thos. Gannon, Chas. E. Evans, Geo. W. Hardy, H. R. Evans, Wm. Davis. It was organized to inculcate patriotism, defend our Public Schools and promote good citizenship. The officers in 1870 were: Fred R. Scherr, Pres.; Frank Hep-

ner, Vice-Pres.; John W. Reese, M. of F. and C.; C. J. Crawshaw, Rec. Secty.; W. W. Crawshaw, Fin. Secty.; E. E. Boyer, Treas.; George Carl, Conductor; W. W. Thorn, Inspector; Fred G. Scherr, Guard. The membership in 1870 was 210.

On August 28, 1911, a drilling club was organized and on Feb. 2, 1914, the club was mustered into the P. O. S. of A. Reserves and known as Company K which proved a big success. Owing to so many of its members volunteering during the World War and entering their country's service during that great conflict, its activities ceased. It insists upon the U. S. Flag floating from every school house, the reading of the Holy Bible in each school room, restriction of immigration and the proper observance of law.

In April 4, 1913, John Ennis Post G. A. R. on account of the few living members, passed a resolution authorizing W. C. 75 P. O. S. of A. to assume the duties of the Post by conducting the Memorial Day services during that year and future years. This service was accepted and satisfactorily performed until a later period when they took up this work jointly with the Duda-Baldwin Post 349 American Legion.

Camp 75 has been honored by having two of its members selected to State and National Camp Offices of the Order. John W. Reese was State President and is at present the National Treasurer. Jos. H. Scherr was for a number of years a State Camp Building Trustee.

The present officers are: Warne F. Symons, Pres.; Fred G. Scherr, Vice-Pres.; George Carl, M. of F. C.; Chas. J. Crawshaw, Recording Secty.; Wilbur W. Crawshaw, Financial Secty.; Frank P. Hepner, Treas.; Elmer E. Boyer, Conductor; Jas. H. Hughes, Inspector; John W. Reese, Guard.

The I. O. O. F.

Mineral Lodge, No. 285, I. O. O. F. was chartered Nov. 22, 1847 and organized April 1, 1848. The original members were: John Batter, Philip Lewis, Anthony Mawry, Jacob Metz, Wm. Phillips, Wm. Renner, John Seitzinger, Daniel Shaffer, Wm. Walker and Wm. Williams.

The officers for the first term were: Wm. Walker, N. G.; Jacob Metz, V. G.; John Seitzinger, Secty.; Anthony Mawry, Ass't. Secretary; Wm. Phillips, Treas. The lodge met each Wednesday evening in the hall on the corner of Second and Hancock Sts.

Sept. 27th, 1865, the lodge purchased of John Holmes, four acres of land for a cemetery. It was chartered July 12, 1866, under the name of Odd Fellows' Cemetery Association of the Borough of St. Clair. The cemetery was dedicated Oct. 1, 1867. Later an addition of three acres was made.

June 8, 1932 marked the opening of their new building on Second Street.

The present officers are: George Boote, Noble Grand; George Kapsha, Vice Grand; Chas. J. Crawshaw, Treasurer; Jas. Kelly, Secty; Jas. H. Hughes, Chaplain; Jas. P. Kelly, Jas. H. Hughes, Joshire Tuckett, Trustees.

At present the membership is 241.

Division No. 9, A. O. H.

Division No. 9, A. O. H., was organized Nov. 1st, 1889, by county Delegate Wm. J. Cooney, with the

following eleven charter members: John J. Sullivan, John Durkin, Andrew Ryan, Patrick J. Malia, John Quirk, John Fox, Michael Murray Martin Fox, Thos. S. Kerns, Jas. Burns, Chas. Gillan.

The first officers were: John Carter, Pres.; Jas. Burns, Vice Pres.; John Sullivan, Financial Secy.; Thos. O'Donnell, Recording Secretary, and John Durkin, Treas.

The succeeding Presidents were Jas. Burns, John Larkin, James Reilley, John Noone, Thos. Lawless, Martin Monahan and Martin Manion.

John Noone was President eleven consecutive years.

During the Spanish American War there were ten members of this division served the entire enlistment.

Rev. John J. O'Connor was elected member of Division, July, 1895, and continued member and also Division Chaplain until his death in January, 1912, having the distinction of being the first priest to become a member of the A. O. H. in Schuylkill County.

During the World War 32 members of Division No. 9, A. O. H. answered President Wilson's call, a number of them being gassed.

The organization has done much charitable work during its organization.

The death rate for the past ten years was three annually.

The present membership of the organization numbers 125 members.

In early life of Division 9 it had a very hard struggle for existence, but today stands third in membership in Schuylkill County.

The present officers are: Martin Manion, Pres.; Edw. Gorman, Vice Pres.; John P. Buckley, Treas.; Michael L. Mitchell, Financial Secretary; Michael W. Malia, Recording Secy.; Martin Fox, Ass't. Secy.

St. Michael's of the I. C. B. U.

St. Michael's Benevolent Society No. 206 of the I. C. B. U. was organized April 14, 1870. The charter members were: Patrick Malia, M. J. Duffy, Michael Sullivan, Jas. Sullivan, and Thos. McKeon. The first officers were: Peter F. Kelley, Pres.; Dennis Leahy, First Vice Pres.; M. J. Duffy, Second Vice Pres.; J. M. McCarthy, Secy.; Patrick Conry, Treas. The succeeding officers were: Daniel Duffy, Pres.; J. C. Leary, First Vice Pres.; Morris Boland, Second Vice Pres.; M. J. Duffy, Secy.; Michael Sullivan, Ass't. Secy.; and Dennis Leahy, Treas.; Peter Corcoran, John McCullough, Stewards; and Dennis Leahy, Messenger. The society met for many years on the third Thursday of every month in St. Mary's Irish Catholic Church. Its membership is large and the finances are in good condition.

The present officers are: Francis Toner, Pres.; John Buckley, Vice Pres.; Martin Fox, Secy.; Jos. Morley, Treas.; Jas. Burns, Jr., Thos. Baker and Wm. Barrett, Trustees; John Toner, Ass't. Secretary.

Knights of St. George

The Knights of St. George, Branch No. 129, was instituted April 1910 with a membership of 122. The following were the first officers: Spiritual Advisor, Rev. Albert M. Korves; President, Henry M. Shire (deceased); Vice Pres., Adam H. Omlor (deceased); Secy., Chas. J. Schuster; Marshall, Jos. H. Shire; Director, Chas. J. Bosche (deceased); Alt. Director, Leo H. Havel (deceased); Trustees, John A. Post (deceased), Chas. A. Schlottman, Chas. E. Greenback.

Present officers: Spiritual Advisor, Rev. Jos. A. Schaeffer; Pres.,

Henry C. Omlor; Vice Pres., Edmund A. Quirin; Secy., Ralph G. Kleinlein; Marshall, Norbert J. Quirin; Director, Henry C. Omlor; Alt. Director, Jacob Schaaf; Trustees, Jos. W. Kelly, Leo H. Kelly; Recorder, Cyril P. Hipp.

This Society pays out sick benefits according to the class entered in and also carries insurance of different features as desired. It also takes care of aged members, widows and orphans of deceased members at the Home located at Wellsboro, West Va.

The Millionaires

Harry T. Plappert, Jr., in 1925 conceived the idea of forming an organization of young men to represent and advertise Saint Clair in other communities by competing in the mummer's parades. The boys have been uniformly successful carrying off many prizes in their hobo suits in nearby towns and in 1928 winning honors in the Phila. New Year's pageant. For the past several years the club has conducted a very successful parade of its own.

The club at present has a membership of fifty members. The club has within its organization an excellent fife and drum corps. The present officers are: Harry T. Plappert, Pres.; Francis Brown, Vice Pres.; Morgan Jones, Secy.; George Webb, Treas.; Morgan Jones, Thos. McKenzie, Edmund Quirin, Trustees.

MUSICAL ORGANIZATIONS

In 1862, the Union Cornet Band was organized. It was one of the earliest bands, and had 19 instruments. It reorganized in 1871 and was chartered in 1873. The charter members were: Jacob Schoppe, Asher Haines, August Leoper, August Schlottman, Wm. H. Badge, Jacob Post and Jos. Wise. The officers were: Thos. Gammil, Pres.; August Schlottman, Secty.; Asher Haines, Treasurer, and Wm. H. Badge, Leader. The Band met on Tuesdays and Saturdays at Evan's Hall, Second St.

The next band organized was known as the Citizens' Band, and was under the Direction of Samuel H. Lee. A few years later, August Schlottman, acting as leader, formed the Schlottman Band. In 1884, Peter Schuster, Elmer Boyer and James Tucker organized the Perseverance Band, being directed by William H. Badge. It consisted of 27 members. Due to a break up of his band, Charles Little acted as leader of 14 of its members, while August Schlottman directed the remaining 13 members.

American Legion Band

The American Legion Band was organized in April, 1933. It consists of 35 members under the direction of Henry Hahn, Frackville. It meets every Thursday at the American Legion Hall, S. Second St., for rehearsals. The officers are: John Jewel, Pres.; Fred Stednits, Secy.; John Jacoby, Treas.

The following are a few other bands the town has known: Joe George's Band consisting of 28 members. The Emerald Band under the direction of Joe George. The Polish Band directed by Elam Jenkins. Geisweit's Band under the leadership of Geo. Geisweit. Wadesville. The Reorganized Perseverance Band, directed by Samuel H. Lee.

The United Choir

The old United Choir of St. Clair met at Super's Hall between the years 1908-1915. It was directed

by Prof. D. Williams, who was noted as one of the best choir directors in the county. They gave concerts at the Columbia, situated on the corner of Front and Lawton Sts. They competed in many concerts with Scranton, Wilkes-Barre and Pottsville. The United Choir was the first choir organized in St. Clair. It was composed of 65 members.

Male Chorus

The Excelsior Chorus, under the direction of Prof. David J. Williams, was organized about 1890. Prof. William's remarkable musical ability accounts for the great success of this organization. It remained active for about 25 years.

It consisted of 60 voices, some of whom possessed outstanding qualities. This chorus competed successfully in many musical contests, such as those of Wilkes-Barre, Scranton, Shenandoah, Mahanoy City, Mount Carmel and Ashland. In 1915, the last officers of this organization were Richard Birch, Treas., and Ed. Scherr, secty., still under the leadership of Prof. Williams.

WATER SUPPLY

Today, Saint Clair is afforded a very excellent water supply by the Pottsville Water Co., which has an excellent history attached to its services. Saint Clair borough is supplied principally by the 16 and 20 inch supply lines passing through Second Street and supplies both St. Clair and Pottsville. Throughout the borough there are 892 feet of pipe of 12 inch diameter, 6911 feet of 8 inch lines and 35,307 feet of six-inch lines. Ninety-five valves are required to regulate the supply. Forty-three fire hydrants are in service for fire protection.

Prior to 1854, the residents of St. Clair received their drinking water from wells and springs, and washing water from Mill Creek. On Nov. 25, 1854, under the direction of Engineer Samuel Lewis and by the permission of Wm. Littlehales and Lot Evans, President of Council and Town Clerk respectively, water from the Wolf Creek was distributed through a 12-inch line on Second St. and through a 3-inch line on Carroll St. from Second St. to Fourth St. Mill Creek was also used as a source of supply and an intake was built near the Pennsylvania Railroad bridge at Broad Mountain. In 1861, another intake was built farther upstream, near the Weatherly Junction above the Railroad bridge.

In 1864, the water of Mill Creek was polluted with mine drainage from the New Boston Colliery, at Morea. In 1869, because of the increased mine drainage in Mill Creek, the Pottsville Water Co. was compelled to abandon its water intakes on Mill Creek and begin the construction of reservoirs.

Therefore, in 1871, the Eisenhuth Reservoir was built near Morea, having a capacity of 298,000,000 gallons, a depth of 40 feet, and a "green acreage" of 1.62 square miles.

Due to the increasing number of consumers the Kauffman Reservoir was constructed and finished in 1892, having a capacity of 104,000,000 gallons, a depth of 50 feet, and a "green acreage" of .88 square miles. The construction of this reservoir will long be remembered by "the dry flood" which drove the residents of the community to the hills. The embankment which was first constructed had a break in it, causing a terrorizing feeling among the people, who feared the great volume

of water behind the defective walls might break through and flood the valley. But, fortunately, the water drained through the break without causing an enlargement of it and the subsequent great rush of water. The present embankment of this reservoir is situated 200 feet below the site of the original embankment.

In 1904, the Pottsville Water Co. assured its consumers of an inexhaustive water supply by undertaking the construction of the large dam on Wolfe Creek. This reservoir was finished and ready for service in 1910. It has a capacity of 393,000,000 gallons, a depth of 60 feet, and a "green acreage" of 1.62 square miles.

As the population increased the water supply lines of the company were extended. The first pipe line in Saint Clair was a 12 inch line on Second Street, from Hancock to Russell. Later a 16-inch line was laid from the Wolfe Creek intake down Wolfe Creek to Mill Creek and then to Second St. Then on Second as far south as Thwing St. a 12-inch line was extended to the present Reading Company yards. This line today crosses the yard and goes over the hill to the residents of that section and thence to Agricultural Park and then to the Park Basin, where the present community pool is located in Pottsville. Until 1902, a 16-inch trunk line served the majority of consumers in St. Clair and Pottsville. In 1902, a 20-inch trunk line was built parallel to it to afford a still greater means of supply. Today, as stated previously, the principal supply lines are 16-inch and 20-inch.

At a very early date, many of the residents living on the less important streets were afforded means of water supply. In 1859, the Front St. supply line (1400 feet long and 3-inch diameter) was laid from Franklin St. In 1860, a 3-inch line on Carroll St. from Second to Front, on Front from Carroll to Lawton, on Lawton from Front to Mill and on Mill from Lawton southward. In 1861 a 3-inch line was laid on Carroll St., from Front to Nicholas. In 1863 a line 1900 feet (3-inch line) long extended north and south on Nichols St. from Carroll St. In 1864, a 3-inch line on Hancock St., from Front to Nicholas St. was laid. In 1865, three-inch lines were laid on Lawton, Morris, Mill and Railroad Sts. In 1866 two-inch lines were laid on Patterson and Hancock Sts. and also an extension of 3-inch lines were laid on Mill and Cemetery Sts., Port Carbon Road, Nicholas and Third Sts. Geo. W. John's Colliery (now the Saint Clair Coal Company) was supplied in 1867. A 3-inch pipe was laid on Thwing St., in 1869, and a 4-inch line was laid up to Wadesville, and in 1871, a six-inch line was laid to supply East Mines. The above mentioned lines served the community until 1893, when it became apparent that larger lines would be laid throughout the borough to adequately serve patrons.

Therefore, today, we find a 16-inch and a 20-inch main trunk line running the entire length of Second St. as far south to Russell, where it crosses on Russell and leaves the St. Clair limits to supply Pottsville. From these two main trunk lines all other streets are supplied by branch lines. Six-inch lines are found on all streets, except where there are located eight-inch lines, as the following, ziv: Carroll St. (east to Second), Nicholas St. extending to the Port Carbon Road. Thus it is not difficult to realize the very adequate water supply, and incidentally, because of the high location of its reservoirs, pressure afforded to this community.

The water rates are moderate as compared to other localities. The first rate schedule for service was placed in effect on February 5, 1855. These rates remained in effect until April 1, 1925, when the present rates became effective.

The water supply, besides being adequate, is naturally pure because of its source, being springs and mountain streams which are located far away from any polluting activity. The water does not require filtration, but it is sterilized by the application of liquid chlorine, through modern apparatus located near Broad Mountain. The water is tested at regular intervals by making bacteriological analysis at the Warne Hospital Laboratory.

The representatives of the Pottsville Water Co. were always prompt in performing their duties and in rendering services. The men who have represented this company and performed their duties were: William J. McQuade (1855-61); David Beveridge (1861-67); Daniel K. Slobig (1867-93); David Midgley (1893-1913; R. Blaine Evans (1913-to the present time).

THE SEWERAGE SYSTEM

One of the predominant facts about Saint Clair, is its natural drainage system which flows from North to South. It is unusual for a locality in the anthracite region to be possessed with such a regular land site as is in the contour of the land comprising Saint Clair.

The first sewerage system in Saint Clair was laid on Second St. by the Scranton Construction Company, at a cost of $25,000, about thirty years ago. Then as money became available, the other streets were sewered, and at present all the streets running north and south have been sewered.

All branches of this sewerage system leads into the waters of Mill Creek, the banks of which were faced by stone walls as early as 1860. This stream at one time had abundant supply of trout and other fish.

Rainy spells which gave rise to freshets cause Mill Creek to overflow its banks and do considerable damage to life and property. The flood of 1868 was long remembered because of its fury and damage. This flood covered the streets and properties of many residents in the vicinity of the Creek as far east as Nicholas St. and as far west as Third St., driving many of the people from their homes. On June 21, 1892, the people were more fortunate, as this flood followed a dry season. The people took to the hills, but the waters of the Kauffman Dam, which had broken through the walls, never reached the community. In the spring of 1903, the most recent flood to visit the community resulted in much damage in the vicinity of the Creek and the loss of life to one man.

The sewerage system of today contains seven main branches; viz: the Third St. Branch, the Second St., the Front St., Mill St., the Nicholas St., the Morris St., and the Price St. Branches. The Third St. Branch begins at Franklin St. and runs to Patterson St.; at Patterson it runs east and flows into the Second St. Branch. The Second St. Branch begins above Franklin, flowing southward to Thwing St., then eastward into the Mill Creek. The Front St. Branch begins at Hancock St., flowing southward to Railroad St., and then into the Creek; a short branch of this branch begins below Russell St. and empties into the Second St. Branch before it empties into the Creek. The Mill St. Branch begins at Sherman St. and flows southward to Carroll, then empties into the

Creek; a short branch is located between Carroll and Lawton, which empties into the Creek at Lawton; another branch of the Mill St. sewer begins below Lawton and flows southward to a midpoint between Russell and Thwing, emptying into John's Creek, then flows into Mill Creek. The Nicholas St. Branch begins at Sherman St., flowing southward to Russell St., where it flows west and empties into the Mill St. lower branch. The Morris St. sewerage begins at Franklin St. and flows southward to Patterson, where it flows eastward and empties into the Nicholas St. Branch. The Price St. Branch begins at Hancock and flows southward to Lawton St. and then west and empties into the Morris St. Branch.

At one time Nicholas St. contained a wooden sewerage system, but this was supplanted by a more modern type which we find through the entire system today.

The Lighting System

The St. Clair Electric Light Department was organized in 1892. The municipal electric light plant was erected in the same year. Light service was given for the first time on Dec. 24, 1892.

The establishment of a municipal light department had its conception with a suggestion from Robert Allison who had influenced the building of the electric light plant at Port Carbon. He suggested to establish a similar municipal plant to that located at Port Carbon. An examination of his plan proved practical and council members which included John Reese, President; George Harrison, William Cookson, A. O. Blanche and Wm. Stevenson floated a bond issue for raising the necessary fund of $25,000 which was the cost of establishing this plant.

This plant generated its own power. The machines which generated this power were two small high speed motors, two small dynamo type motors of forty kilowatt power and one arc light machine. This system generated power for five hundred lights of sixteen candle power, of these there were twenty-eight arc lights of the Thompson and Heuston type. This system supplied the necessary light to supply East Mines, Upper Mill Creek and the town proper.

The municipal owned electric light plant proved a success in the early beginning but in 1917, there was a sudden devaluation which culminated in the necessary change of 1922 which introduced the present system.

John W. Reese was the first superintendent and served from 1892 to 1897 and again served from 1900 to 1909. From 1897 to 1900 the superintendency was filled by Julius Slumph. It was during the period of Julius Slumph and the second period of John Reese that the plant was enlarged to serve the ever increasing demands. The successors to Mr. Reese and Mr. Slumph were as follows: Robert Ryder (1913-1915); Garfield Evans (1915-1927); Richard Gray (1927-1929); William Keffer (1929-1931); George Schmeltzer (1932-present).

As the price of coal increased and depreciation had set in there was a relative decrease in profits and at sometimes a deficit. An examination of approximate profits at various times will aid us to determine the trend and the necessity of establishing the present and a very valuable system enjoyed today.

Old System

1903-1908—Total $3219.15 (deficit)
1909—$2500.00 (profit).
1921—Large deficit.

Present System
1922-1927—Total $100,000 (profit).
1930—$28,000 (profit).
1931—$24,800 (profit).
1932—$42,168 (profit).

The introduction of the present system in 1922 brought about a wholesale purchase of power from the Pennsylvania Power and Light Co. with the St. Clair Light Department retailing this power to the consumer and agreeing to repair all lines in the borough. It was this wholesale purchase plan which affords this borough opportunity to realize profits and still charge rates which are not higher than those rates charged by the Pennsylvania Power and Light Co. to consumers elsewhere: Street lighting is also afforded to the borough at a nominal fee.

With the profits made from this new system many civic improvements have been realized, among the outstanding improvement is the paving of all the streets. These improvements have been made solely with the new means of revenue and without the necessity of resorting to new taxes.

The present schedule of rates are as follows:

The first 15 kilowatt hours, $1.50; next additional 20 kilowatt hours, 8 cents each; next additional 30 kilowatt hours. 7 cents each; over 65 and up to 500 kilowatt hours, 5 cents each; all over 500 kilowatt hours, 4 cents each; minimum charge, $1.50 for which 15 kilowatt hours may be used.

A very efficient clerical and accounting system which has recently been established also tends to keep expenses at a minimum and influence a larger profit.

The men who were the pioneers of the St. Clair Electric Light Department and men who later made improvements in any way are to be commended for bringing about the present excellent system. The many civic improvements are as monuments which will mark as time passes on the true worth of this organization.

Streets of the Borough

The streets of St. Clair have a long history attached to them. They were the site of a swamp comprised of giant gum, spruce, oak and willow trees. Today, it is very difficult to reconstruct the picture of two hundred years ago when St. Clair was the virgin forest. The streets which exist today were named long before 1850, and shortly after the lumber which was on them were removed. Nicholas St., according to early records was laid out as early as 1831 by Carey, Lee and Hart. All streets, thereafter, were planned to run parallel or at right angles to Nicholas street. The Corporation Charter of 1850 contains information which shows that the present plan of the town was fully visualized at the early date of 1850.

Today, St. Clair may boast of having the greatest percentage of its streets paved. Second street was the first street to be paved; it is 52 feet wide, and the work was done by the Pottsville Construction Co. Part of the expenses was defrayed by the State and the East Penn Traction Co. The paving started on South Second street at Franklin street making a distance of 7771 feet, and was completed and officially opened for traffic on December 20, 1927, costing $56,067.37. This includes East Mines.

The Nicholas street paving contract was awarded to John Slattery of St. Clair, at a cost of $55,237. Work was started on this street on May 20, 1929. This street is 3,887 feet long and 36 feet wide.

The paving of Third and Hancock streets with the intersections of Franklin and Patterson street was awarded to John Slattery of St. Clair, at a cost of $64,652.50. Third street paving is 2,699 feet long and 36 feet wide. Hancock St. is 1,790 feet long and 36 feet wide. The intersections on Franklin and Patterson streets are 200 feet long and 36 feet wide. These streets were contracted for and completed during the summer of 1930.

The extension of North Second street paving, about 400 feet long, was built up through the subway under the Phila. and Reading Railroad to connect with the paved road in New Castle Twp. This was opened for traffic on Nov. 5, 1930, and the cost to the borough was $7,000.

Front St., Morris St., Mill St. and many of the intersecting streets were paved a few months later, at a cost of $90,000.

In addition to the foregoing paving, the borough installed on Second St., when it was being paved, a boulevard lighting system, at a cost of $20,048.51.

These improvements were all made without any additional taxes being paid by the taxpayers of the borough.

Community Playground

For the amusement of the children of St. Clair, a community playground was installed by the unemployed of the town.

Work first began on this project in the early part of April, 1933, and is as yet uncompleted, as the committee for the amusement park are making negotiations with the NRA for the installation of a bathhouse. Young men and older men who were unemployed gave their time and worked daily throughout the entire summer, without receiving any remuneration for their labor. A great deal of hard labor was done by the aid of the steam-shovel, which was donated by the St. Clair Coal Co.

The ground on which the park and pool are located was the ground known, for a good many years, as "Hughes' Fields," controlled and owned by the Reading Coal and Iron Co. Water for the pool was given by the Pottsville Water Co. and the electric lighting system was installed by the St. Clair Power and Light Co.

At the beginning of this project a committee was appointed by the men interested in making a success of the park. Said committee contained five members, who lived in the immediate vicinity of the playgrounds. They were Thomas Quigley, John Kelly, Joseph Krawchick, Francis Maley and Christopher Honicker Through the combined efforts of these men we have a park—a memorial to the tireless men who were not afraid to sacrifice a part of their time for the enjoyment of others.

MILITARY RECORD

The Civil War

Prior to the immigration of settlers from continental Europe, the settlers which traced their ancestry or homes to England, Scotland, Ireland, Wales as well as Germany, were blended together in a common cause in a most patriotic response to the call for the defense of the country. Pennsylvania furnished the greatest quota of all the States; Schuylkill County furnished the largest average of Pennsylvanians; St. Clair responded with the greatest percentage in Schuylkill County. The Wetherill Rifles under Captain Edw. Farne were among the earliest to respond to Lincoln's call. Later, the Lafayette Rifles under Captain Wm. H.

Jennings led more St. Clair men to the field of honor.

The Wetherill Rifles of St. Clair, became a division of the Ninth Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteers and for a period were stationed near Wilmington, Del. Later this regiment was attached to General Mile's Brigade and took part in the advance toward Winchester, Va.

The members of the Wetherill Rifles of St. Clair, included the following:

Officers: Captain, Edward Farne; first lieut., John D. Jones; second, Frederick A. Herwig; sergeants, Thos. Ray, Henry Kroba, Jr., John March, John Carl; corporals, Wm. J. McCarthy, Edw. A. Smith, Wm. G. DeTurk, Thos. Torbet; musicians, John Butterwick, John Bummersbach; privates, Jas. Atkinson, Jas. Bummersbach, August Beurne, Jacob Britt, Lloyd T. Brewes, Wm. Breman, George Beaumont, Chas. H. Blue, John W. Barnes, Benjamin Chadweck, Wm. H. Cape, Jos. Dennings, James Dormer, Patrick P. Donovan, Lewis Deekes, Charles Dress, Daniel W. Freeman, Frederick Grum, Geo. Hetherington, John Howels, John Humphreys, William H. Humes, John Harrison, Samuel Hawn, Edwin F. Hensel, Hatton Hannum, Wm. Johnson, Jos. Korbey, Ralph Korbey, Faro W. Krebs, Jas. King, Peter C. Kreiger, Nicholas Kern, Charles Kaler, Samuel Kendall, Thos. Lewis, Evan Lewis, John Lennon, Samuel Matter, Peter Mahley, John McGowen, Jas. Martin, Wm. Murgan, Michael McHugh, Jas. Moore, Jeremiah McMahon, F. McLafferty, Jacob Neifert, Amos L. Neilds, Morris O'Neil, Jacob Parvin, Thos. Paul Palmer, Jas. Riley, John W. Reese, Chas. L. Roorbach, John Rhobale, John St. Steele, Michael Sedgwick, John Taggert, Henry Huhn, Nicholas Welsh, Augustus Wolff.

The records of the Lafayette Rifles of St. Clair included the following as members:

Officers: Captain, Wm. H. Jennings; first lieutenant, Wm. G. Burwell; second, John Ennis; sergeants, Chas. Blacker, Thomas M. Price, Wm. G. Gwyther, Nicholas Schmeltzer; corporals, Michael A. Welsh, David Ruse, James Blacker, Edward R. Breckon; fifer, Wm. Birt; drummer, Michael Clark;

Privates: Wm. Ansbach, William Blacker, Wm. Brown, Wm. Brennan, John Blakely, Wm. Childs, Thos. Cresswell, Benneville Clase, Jas. J. Cooper, John Crow, John Catcher, Wm. Davis, John Dougherty, Jonah Davis, John Donley, Wm. Dudley, John Dolan, Joseph Dixon, George Evans, John Francis, Geo. Farnie, Wm. Gittin, Thos. Gwyther, Robt. Green, John Green, Wm. Gable, Evan Humphries, Geo. Hancock, Jas. Highten, Marshall Harrison, David Jenkins, Isaac B. Jones, Jeremiah David, Theodore Koch, John Kelly, John Mason, Edw. Mason, Patrick Murray, John L. Morgan, Wm. Price, Jas. Pusey, Frank Richardson, Robert Rogers, Reese Reese, George Lockett, John Snaden, John W. Smith, Geo. Smith, Wm. M. Steel, Edw. Sedgwick, John Stevens, Chas. Taylor, John Taylor, Geo. Thomas, John G. Thomas, John Thompson, Adgate Vanhorn, John Vincent, David D. Walker, Thos. Wilson, Daniel Walker, John Wood, George Wonders, Adam W. Zimmerman.

Besides the members of the Lafayette Rifle Squad and the Wetherill Squad, St. Clair was largely represented in many of the other regiments other than what the Lafayette and Wetherill Rifle Squads were a part. The following list has been compiled, but it is far from being complete because of the lack of records. This list was compiled

from the official records of John Ennis Post, No. 47, G. H. Q., Department of Pennsylvania is as follows:

Jas. Auman; Edw. Austin, Co. L, 3rd Regt., Pa. Cav.; Jos. Alexander, Co. H, 48th Reg., Pa. Vol.; Jas. Ashton, Merchants No. 44; Jesse Ansbaugh, Co. A, 12 Pa. Cav.; Wm. Anspach, Co. A, 7 Pa. Cav.; Geo. Anspach, Co. A, 7 Pa. Cav.; Wm. G. Burwell, Co. E, 3 P. V. A.; H. A. Buechly, Co. G, 5 P. V. C.; Adam Bummersbaugh, Co. F, 7 P. V. C.; Thos. Baldwin, Co. F, 7 P. V. C.; Wm. Blacker, Co. B, 14th Reg., Pa. Vol.; Chas. Beaumont, Co. A, 7 P. V. C.; Jas. Blacker, Co. B, 14 Reg., Pa. Vol.; Dan R. Bright; Thos. Begley, Co. B, 48th Reg., Pa. Vol.; Lloyd T. Brewer, Co. F, 2 Pa. Art.; John Beedle (killed), Co. C, 99th Reg., Pa. Vol.; Peter Bummersbaugh, Co. G, 5 P. V. C.; Michael Bergan, Co. A, 7th Reg., Va. Vol.; Jacob Bummersbaugh, Co. H, 6 P. V. M.; Richard Brown, Co. B, 48th P. V.; Alex. S. Bowen, Co. H, 48th Pa. Vol.; David Brown, Co. D, 39th Pa. V. M.; Wm. Buechly, Co. G, 5 P. V. C.; Wm. Brown, Co. B, 14 P. V. M.; Samuel Brown, 157 P. V.; Frederick Bauer, Co. K, 4th N. J. V.; Abraham Butts; Jacob Boyer, Co. H, 6 P. V. M.; John Ball, Co. F, 7th P. V. C.; Patrick Burke, Co. E, 210 P. V.; Wm. Buller, Co. A, 84th Reg. Pa. Vol.; Wm. Bowler, Co. K, 36th Pa. Inf.; Jonathan Bowen, Co. C, 6 P. V. M.; Uriah Barnes, Co. F, 96th P. V.; John Betz, Co. F, 7 P. V. C.

H. G. Bowell, Co. E, 3 P. V. A.; Jacob K. Buehler, Co. G, 96 P. V. I.; Phillip Batman, Co. B, 1st V. R. C.; Jos. Blakeley, Co. E, 210 P. V. I.; Jacob Brightmyer, Co. A, 6th P. V. M.; John Brets, Co. A, 7th Reg. Pa. Vol.; Henry Byerley; John Burke, U. S. Navy; Peter Bummersbach, Co. G, 5 P. V. C.; David Brown, Co. D, 39th Pa. V. M.; John P. Bowen, Co. C, 6 P. V. M.; Samuel E. Brown, 157 P. V.; Jas. Blacker, Co. B, 14th Pa.; John Burke, U. S. Navy; John Ball, Co. F, 7th P. V. C.; Patrick Burke, Co. E, 210 P. V.; W. G. Burwell, Co. B, 9 P. V.; Fred R. Carl, Co. D, 39th P. V. M.; Dan Crawshaw, Co. B, 129; John Covely, Co. C, 27 Reg. Pa. Vol.; R. G. Coryell, Co. H, 6th Pa.; Daniel Covely, Co. A, 7th Reg. Pa. Vol.; Benj. Clase, Co. K, 194th Pa.; Jas. Chadwick, Co. G, 48th Pa. Vol.; Thos. Clark, Co. G, 48th Pa. Vol.; John Clews, Co. A, 7th Cav.; Benj. Clase, Co. B, 14th Reg. Pa. Vol.; Jos. Clews, Co. H, 15 Pa. Cav.; George Crawshaw, Co. C, 39th Pa.; John Curly, Co. K, 89th NY Vol.; James Cahill, Co. K, 3rd Pa. H. Art.; Jas. Connors, Co. A, 7th Reg. Pa. Cal.; Joe Denning, Co. F, 7 P. V. C.; Wm. Davies, Co. B, 129 P. Vol.

Jacob Dewald, Co. A, 96 Pa. Vol.; John Daddow, Co. D, 39th P. V. M.; Wm. D. DeTurk, Co. P, 129 Pa. Vol.; Wm. Davidson, Co. B, 48th Pa. Vol.; Wm. Davis, Co. B, 14 R. P. V.; John Dudley, Co. B, 129 Pa. Inf.; Jonah Davis, Co. G, 4 U. S. C.; Samuel Davidson, Co. E, 210 P. V. I.; James Davis, Co. I, 52 P. V. I.; John Durkin, Co. G, 5 P. V. C.; Michael Devlin, Co. E, 5 Pa. Vol.; Michael Devine, Co. G, 53rd P. V. M.; John H. Davies, Co. B, 129 Pa. Inf.; Adam Didyoung, Co. F, 7th Pa. Cav.; Wm. Denning, Co. K, 194 P. V. I.; Clay W. Evans, Co. B, 129th Inf.; Edw. Edwards, Co. H, 48th Reg. Pa. Vol.; J. J. Edwards, Co. G, 5th Pa. Cav.; Thomas Edwards, Co. G, 5th Pa. Vol.; Reese W. Evans, Co. E, 210 Pa. Vol.; Thos. Eynon, Co. D, 39th P. V. M.; Thos. Evans, Co. C, 39th Pa.; David Evans, Co. F, 7th Pa. Cav.; Jas. Evans, Co. C, 5th Pa. Cav.; Geo. Evans, Co. B, 48th P. V. I.; John C. Evans, Co. D, 39th P. V. M.; Edw. Farne, Co. H, 9th P. V. I.; John Foster, Co. unknown; Jos. Foster, Co. D, 5th Wisconsin Inf.; Thos. Foster,

Co. A, 7 P. V. C.; Wm. Foster, Co. D, 5th Wisconsin Inf.; Albert Fronley, Co. A, 7 Pa. Cav.; Edw. Fletcher, Co. E, 210 Pa. Vol.; W. H. H. Francis, Co. B, 48 P. V. I.; David Fitzpatrick, Co. F, 7th P. V. C.

Wm. T. Fox, Co. F, 7 Pa. Cav.; Edw. Farne, Co. H, 9th P. V. I.; Jacob Frantz, Co. A, 7th Pa. Cav.; Michael Flannery, Co. I, 7th Pa. Cav.; Henry Frantz, 1st Ind. Bat.; Albert I. Farne, Co. C, 27 P. V. M.; Wm. Farne, Co. G, 48 P. V. I.; Martin Foyle, Co. I, 96 Reg. Pa. Vol.; David Geiger, Co. H, 6th P. V. M.; Wm. C. Gwyther, Co. B, 14 Pa. Vol.; Thos. Gradwell, Co. I, 7th Pa. Cav.; Thos. Gradville, Co. I, 7th Reg. Pa. Vol.; Thos. Gannon, Co. H, 48th P. V.; Anthony Gallagher, Unknown; Wm. Gittins, Co. B, 14th P. V. M.; John Gallagher, Co. I, 53rd Reg. Pa. Vol.; Henry Goodman, Co. A, 10th N. G.; John Green, Co. B, 14th Pa. Inf.; John George, 49th P. V. Inf.; Matthew Hume, Co. B, 48th Pa. Vol.; Jas. W. Hughes, Co. I, 214 P. V.; Wm. Hume, Co. B, 48 Reg. Pa. Vol.; Sam Holmes, Navy; Thos. Hetherington, G. W. Houseknecht, Co. C, 39th P. V. M.; John Harrison, Co. C, 48th Pa. Vol.; James Hirst, Co. B, 129 Pa. Vol.; Benj. Haines, Co. E, 210 Pa. Vol.; Wm. Haines, Co. K, 194 P. V. M.; Jacob Hetherington, Co. H, 16 Pa. Cav.; Thomas Haughton, Co. D, 96 Pa. Vol.; Edw. Hayes, Co. A, 96 P. V.; Michael Hillan, Co. I, 16 Reg. Pa. Vol.; Wm. Howarth, Co. I, 7 Pa. Cav.; B. J. Houseknecht, Co. E, 210 Pa.; John Haney, Co. D, 7th Reg.; Wm. Hart, Co. D, 96 Pa.; Michael Gillan.

Geo. Hetherington, Co. A, 7th P. V. Cav.; Wm. Hablet, Co. C, 5th P. V. Cav.; John Haslam, Co. H, 129 Pa.; Alex Hart, Co. E, 210 Pa. V.; Elijah Hart, Co. D, 96 P. V. I.; Jacob Hart, Co. D, 96 P. V. I.; W. W. Jenkins, Co. F, 7th P. V. I.; Robert Jones, Co. F, 7th Pa. Cav.; Enoch Jones, Co. C, 5th Pa. Cav.; G. W. T. Johns, Co. H, 6th P. V. M.; Jas. E. Jones, Co. D, 39th P. V. M.; W. W. Jenning, 7 P. C.; John D. Jones, Co. A, 7 P. V. C.; T. R. Johnson, Co. D, 39 P. V. M.; John Krebs, Co. C, 3rd Reg. Art.; Nathan Krebs, Co. C, 39 P. M.; Samuel Kerber, Co. A, 42 P. V. M.; Pharoah Krebs, Co. C, 5th Reg.; Philip W. Krebs, Co. E, 210 Pa. Vol.; Henry Krebs, Co. K, 35 US Col T.; Louis M. Koch, Co. H, 6 P. V. M.; Ralph Kirby, Co. A, 7th Pa. Cav.; N. G. Kelley, Co. H, 11 Pa. Cav.; Samuel Keiter, Co. A, 42 P. V. M.; David Kuhns, Co. C, 96 Reg. Pa. Vol.; Path. Kelly, 57 U. S. A.; Peter Kelly, Co. G, 96 Reg. Pa. Vol.; Jos. Keim; Wm. Keefer; Enoch Lambert, Co. C, 48th Pa. Vol.; Charles Laramy, Co. A, 129 R. V.; S. Llewellyn, Co. F, 7th Pa. Cav.; David G. Lewis, Co. G, 5th Pa. Cav.

Ray S. Langdon, Co. B, 6th Pa. V. M.; John Lamb, Co. C, 53 P. V. M.; Thos. Llewellyn, Co. H, 11 Pa. Cav.; Wm. Lloyd, Co. H, 48th Reg. Pa. Vol.; Geo. Lloyd, Co. G, 5 P. V. C.; John Lloyd, Co. H, 48th Reg. Pa. Vol.; Wm. G. Lotts; Daniel Lauchman, Co. B, 129th Reg.; Wm. H. Lochman, Co. F, 26 Pa. V. M.; Llewellyn Llewellyn, Co. F, 7th Pa. Cav.; Geo. Lookingbill, Co. D, 39th Pa. V. M.; John Mack, Co. I, 7th Reg. Pa. Cav.; W. Morris, Co. E, 210 Pa.; Wm. I. Morgan, Co. H, 81 Pa. Vol.; David Morgan, Co. D, 5 Reg. Pa. Cav.; Thos. Morgan, Co. M, 3rd Pa. Cav.; John March, Co. K, 104 Pa. Vol.; Wm. K. March, Co. I, 188 Pa. Vol.; John Maguire, Co. F, 7th Pa. Vol.; David Martin, Co. F, 7th Pa. Cav.; Thos. McGuire, Co. D, 39th Reg. Pa. Vol.; Wm. S. Morris. Co. E, 210 Pa.; Edw. McGinnis, Co. E, 48th Reg. Pa. Vol.; H. H. Marshall; John McGovern, Co. H, 9th Reg. Pa. Vol.; Michael Moran, Co. E, 5th Reg. Pa. Vol.; Edw. Moyer, Co. D, P. V. I.

J. F. Martin; J. Mahoney, Co. A, 7th Reg. Pa. Vol.; Longstaff Middleton, Co. F, 147 P. V. I.; John Mullin, Co. H, 129 P. V. I.; Path. Murray, Co. B, 14 P. V. I.; Edw. Mason, Co G, P. V. I.; Wm. J. McCarthy, Co. H, 9 Pa. Inf.; John R. Medare, Co. A, 27 Pa. M.; David Morgan, Co. D, 5 Pa. Cav.; John McCabe, Co. H, 129 Pa. V.; Edward McCabe, Co. G, 48 Reg. Vol.; Clibe Morris, 3 Pa. Art.

Aleck McDonald, Co. C, 28 P. V. I.; I. B. McBride, Co. F, 24 N. J. Vol.; H. M. McChonnia, Co. C, 5 Pa. Cav.; Patrick Mulcachy, Co. A, 7th Reg. Pa. Cav.; A. Nichal, Co. K, 9th Pa.; Michael Naughton, 2 Vol. Cav.; John Niel, Co. E, 210 Pa. Inf.; Levi Orme, Co. D, 39 P. V. I.; Morris O'Neil, Co. A, 7th Pa. Cal.; Anthony O'Donnell, Co. H, 48th P. V.; Dennis O'Neil, Co. A, 7th Reg. Pa. Cav.; Maurice Oestreich, Co. B, 96 Pa. V. I.; Samuel O'Donnell; David I. Price, Co. A, 7th P. V. C.; John Peckman; Jas. Price. Co. F, 7th P. V. C.; Thos. Palmer, Co. H, 48th P. V.; Wm. Partington. Co. F, 110 P. V.; Wm. E. Price, Co. G, 48th P. V.; Wm. Pooler, Co. B, Ohio Guards; Reuben Price, Co. D, 39 P. V. M.; Thos. M. Price, Co. A, P. V. C.; Thos. Ray, Co. F, 7th Pa. V. Cav.; F. W. Richardson, Co. B, 14 Pa.; I. M. Richardson, Co. K, 134 Pa. Vol.; C. S. Roonbach, Co. A, 7th Pa. V. C.; Wm. Quirk, Co. F, 96th Reg. Pa. Vol.; Eli Reese, Navy; Edw. Reese, Co. I, 11 Pa. Cav.; Robert Rogers, Co. B, 14 P. V. M.; Chas. Rogan, Co. A, 7th Reg. Pa. Cav.; Bernard Roberts, Co. I, 76 P. V.; John Ryan, Co. D, 107 Reg. Pa. Vol.; Michael Ryan, Co. F, 48 P. V.

John W. Ray, Co. K, 48 P. V. I.; Thos. Russell, Co. C, 99 P. V. I.; George Reese, Co. F, 7 Pa. Cav.; Eli Reese, Saranac Crew; John E. Richards, Co. M, 198 P. V. I.; R. F. Siligman, Co. S, 152 Pa. Vol.; W. B. Seitsinger, Co. H, 173 Pa. Vol.; Renchardt Scherr, Co. C, P. V. M.; W. M. Smith, Co. I, 188 Pa. Vol.; Jas. W. Schoener, Co. K, 67 P. V. I.; John Stephens, Co. G, 3 Pa. Art.; Chas. K. Smith, Co. H, 194 Pa. Inf.; John W. Smith, Co. I, 188 Pa. Vol.; Wm. Short, Co. A, 1st Bat. P. M. C.; Wm. I. Smith, Co. M, 3rd Pa. Art.; John Sneddon, Co. G, 57 Pa. V. Inf.; Jos. A. Seligman, Co. C, 6 Pa. V. I.; Ben. I. Sheafer, US Mil. R. R.; Jacob P. Sherman, Co. H, 6th P. V. M.; Thos. Spittle, Co. A, 7th P. V. I.; Thos. Stephenson, Co. A, 1st Bat. Cav.; John S. Snyder, Co. F, 7th P. V. M.; Jas. Stride, Co. E, 210 Pa.; Edward Sykes, Co. G, 48th Pa.; Geo. Sykes, Co. G, 5th Pa. Cav.; A. M. Seligman, Co. H, 6th P. V. M.; Wm. Stevenson, Co. C, 6th Pa. Vol. Cav.; August Schlotman, Co. A, 7th P. V. C.; Andrew Summers, Co. H, 7th P. V. C.; Thos. Seitzinger.

Geo. Scholly, Co. M, 198 P. V. I.; A. Schollenberger, Co. B, 48 Reg. Pa. Vol.; Nicholas Schmeltzer, Co. B, 14 P. V. I.; Michael Schmeltzer, Co. B, 14 P. V. I.; Thos. M. Spurr, Co. E, 174 P. V. M.; Wm. Short, 1st Bat. Pa. Cav.; Andrew Somers, Co. H, 17 Pa. Cav.; Jacob P. Sherman, Co. H, 6 Pa. Inf.; John Smith, Co. M, 3rd Reg. Pa. Artil.; John Taggart, Co. A, 7 P. V. C.; Martin Tempest, Co. H, 129 Pa. Vol.; Geo. Thomas, Co. B, 14th Reg. Pa. Vol.; John Taylor, Co. B, 14 Pa. Vol.; Wm. G. Thomas; Wm. H. Thomas, 210 Pa. Inf.; Abraham Townsend, Co. C, 39th Pa. Inf.; Thos. Thornton, Co. B, 129 Pa. Vol.; Wm. Thomas, Co. M, 152 P. V. Art.; John G. Thomas, Co. B, 14th Reg. Pa. Vol.; John S. Thomas, Co. B, 129 Pa.; Nathaniel Tucker, Co. H, 9th Pa.; Peter Toner, Co. A, 24 P. V.; Albert Tronley, Co. A, 7 Reg. Pa. Cav.; Samuel Taylor, Co. F, 59 V. Inf.; Theodore Thorn, Co. B, 129 P. V. I.; Robert Thomas; Jas. Toohey, Co. H, 99 Reg. N. Y.; Thos. Thomas, Co. I, 52 P. V. I.; Wm. Urch, Co. D, 39 Pa. Militia; Jos. Urch, Co. D, 39 Pa. Militia; Samuel Winn, Co. F, 7th Pa. Cav.;

Thos. Winn, Co. D, 14 Pa. Vol.; Dan'l. Walker, Co. B, 14 Pa. Vol.; David Watkins, Co. M, 13 Pa. Art.; Nicholas Welsh, Co. A, 7th Reg. Pa. Cav.; W. D. Williams, Co. C, 16 Pa. Cav.

James J. Wood, Co. I, 27 Pa. Inf.; Elias Webster, Co. E, 210 Pa. Inf.; J. Willingham, Co. D, 39 P. V. M.; Roland Whitfield, Ind. Pa. Vol.; Eli Williams, Co. A, 7th Reg. Pa. V.; Chas. Williams, Co. B, 96 Pa. V. I.; David Williams, Co. D, 4th Reg. Pa. Vol.; Dan. J. Williams, Co. G, 5 P. V. C.; Thos. Williams, Co. E, 5 P. V. C.; Michael Wilson, Co. F, 7 P. V. C.; James Wilson, Co. F, 7th Reg. Pa. Cav.; Jos. Weise, Co. C, 39 P. M.; J. D. Williams, Co. C, 16 Pa. Cav.; Geo. Watkins, Co. B, 129 Pa. Vol.; Jas. Whims, Co. K, 210 Pa. Vol.; John Weisner.

Others who were in the Civil War for whom local records are not available were: Charles, George, John and William Beaumont of which brothers two paid the supreme sacrifice and their remains are buried on the Gettysburg Battlefield. John Curry and Louis Howard (the youngest drummer boy in the war) also were among the representatives of St. Clair.

Many of the men who came back paid the price of victory as they suffered untold agony with the "fever" which was prevalent at the time.

Upon the return of those men from St. Clair from the field of honor, the town of St. Clair received them with great ovation. The town was decorated colorfully, a great parade was held and many banquets and dinners were given to the men who offered their lives for their country.

The St. Clair Monument Association is responsible for the monument gracing the Odd-Fellows Cemetery. It was dedicated on Thanksgiving Day, 1894, to the memory of those men who served in the Civil War.

The town has in its possession the famous and once well known "Vicksburg Cane" made from a branch of the tree under which Lee surrendered to Grant and which that soldier-president presented through Richard Brown, to our people in recognition of the fact, that St. Clair had the largest percentage in response to the call of their country.

The Spanish-American War

On April 28, 1898, a Company of 105 members left St. Clair for Mount Gretna, Pa., and were mustered into the U. S. Army on May 12 as Company K. 8th Regiment, Penna. Volunteer Infantry. The Regiment broke camp at Mt. Gretna and arrived at Dunn Loring Station, Va., at 6 o'clock p. m. The Regiment disembarked and marched to Falls Church a distance of 3 miles. This Regiment composed the first regulars located at Camp Alger. On August 30, the Regiment proceeded to Camp Meade, Middletown, Penna., arriving there in the early morning of August 31. On Sunday, November 13, Camp broke at 5 o'clock a. m. and left for Augusta, Georgia, then the Regiment was finally mustered out of the U. S. Service at Camp McKenzie on March 7, 1899.

The following were members of the Company: Edw. G. Farne, Captain; John J. Duffy, First Lieutenant; Frederick H. Farne, Second Lieutenant; Jas. J. Quin, First Sergeant; Joshua L. Crawshaw, Second Sergeant; Sergeants: Jonathan E. Beaumont, Samuel E. Houseknecht, Abram Sage, Martin F. Duffy.

Corporals: Jas. H. Willingham, Maurice J. Connors, Patrick F.

Heenan, Wesley J. Ceasar, Patrick J. Curley, Edwan M. Tobin, George E. Smith, Edw. J. Higgins, Edgar Thomas, Bruce R. Thorn, John B. Beaumont, Jos. Covely, George Deuful, Wm. A. Reese, Cook, Wm. E. Super, Wagoner; Malcolm M. McFarlan, Fifer; Privates: Peter Berry, Chas. I. Blacker, Wm. A. Bright, Martin P. Brennan, John C. Britton, John F. Bachman, Robert Baumer, Robert Bull, Alexander J. Campbell, Wm. J. Corby, Joseph F. Colwell, Wm. J. Chadwick, Alfred Carter, Frederick H. Cleweus, Ernest W. Davis, Merton A. Davis, Wm. J. Dunkin, George A. Downus, Geo. W. Eisenhuth, John J. Eagan, John A. Eeb, Harry C. Evans, Morgan Evans, Frank I. Flanagan, Alfred F. Frantz, John Gaynor, Patrick Gillespie, Harry Green, John C. Griffith, Wm. C. Griffiths, Michael A. Lundy, Robert R. Lewis, Franklin C. Leymeister, Thos. R. La Velle, Samuel G. Leisey, Michael Mack, John A. Malvoney, Jas. J. Gorman, John M. Geisweit, Frank J. Hennessey, Jos. J. Hennessey, Lewis Horvath, Gomer Hughes, John F. Krotex, Wm. J. Kelly, Jas. F. Kelly, Charles C. Long, Harry Lugan, John V. Mahoney, Wm. Mansell, Herbert E. Moore, Wm. H. Moore, Frank Moran, John M. Morrison, John J. McAnulty, Sed J. McElwee, Simon O. Connell, Jas. C. O'Donnell, Jos. M. O'Donnell, Wm. J. Price, Harry E. Phillips, Charles Raybould, Samuel R. Ray, David Roach, Jos. I. Ruffing, Frederick E. Schaeffer, Robert Smith, Emanuel A. Stauffer, Harry Strohecker, John Titus, Jas. H. Thompson, Jas. H. Townsend, Chas. I. Wiggam, Thos. J. Wilson, Wm. Weil, Wm. J. Williams, S. B. Zulick, One resigned, One disabled.

Others of the Company who left St. Clair were: John W. Colwaee, Wm. J. Orme, Chas. H. Frantz, Wm. H. Lewis, Richard A. Caldwell, Arthur Hulet, Edgar Buehler, Joseph Schell and Chas. Schlottman.

Those transferred were: George Fosler, Reuben F. Campbell, Joseph J. Didyoung.

This Company was instrumental in the construction of the Armory Hall which was situated on the present site of the Potts property on Third and Carroll Sts. The Armory Hall was destroyed by fire in 1910.

WORLD WAR

In the years 1914 to 1918, the World War broke out, taking into service from St. Clair, the following men: Wesley Allison, Alfred Adams, Edw. Aulenbach, Joel T. Boone, Leo Bauter, Peter Bobilas, Harry Brown, Harry W. Brown, Harold Bixler, Theo. V. Beaumont, John P. Buckley, Wm. Becker, Bruce Birch, David E. Buchanan, Wm. H. Buchanan, John C. Buchanan, Jr., Thos. G. Buchanan, Steve Buria, John Bachinsky, Jos. Bobbin, Leo Balsis, Geo. A. Betz, Geo. L. Bobby, Michael D. Bailey, John Birbilas, Jos. A. Birbilas, Lawrence M. Branz, Michael Bell, Geo. Benonis, Peter Balulis, Jas. C. Baker, Steve Bobetski, Michael Babish, Edw. J. Croll, Francis T. Coady, Raymond Carl, Steve Charnak, Chas. Carroll, Joseph J. Corby, Geo. Corby, Leo C. Corby, John Chivinsky, Herbert Corby, Silas Collins, Wm. J. Curley, Edward Curley, Harry Corcoran, Wm. Cook, Luther R. Clocker, Archie J. Cahill, Daniel Campbell, Geo. Condrack.

Wm. Collihan, Jas. Carter, Michael J. Carroll, Jos. T. Close, George L. Crawshaw, Emery Cuprock, Steven Catchur, Antonio Dimarino, Donato Dupius, J. Leslie Davis, Herbert W. Davis, John Davis, Francis Dormer, Archie J. Dormer, Edwin A. Dins-

more, John Dunlosky, Charles B. Dolan, John J. Dolan, John J. Dolan, Wm. L. Donahue, Edw. J. Dougherty, Samuel H. Daddow, Don Drapinis, Edw. Dockweller, Louis Darcangelo, Vaughn Davis, Enoch Eraski, Michael Ewanski, Ralph W. Frantz, Guy O. Frantz, Charles J. Frantz, Albert S. Frantz, Walter Frantz, Ellwood H. Frantz, Geo. E. Frantz, Michael Filtosh, John Filtosh, John J. Flanagan, Thos. E. Flanagan, John M. Farne, Raymond G. Foster, Chas. Farrell, Edw. Farrell, Chas. W. Gwinner, Wm. H. Geiger, John J. Gilmartin, Leo Gately, John F. Gately, Geo. Gately, John M. Geary, Jos. C. Geary, Jos. Grace.

Daniel M. Grace, Frank J. Gombar, Chas. Greenback, Leo R. Gorman, Peter Gottschall, Chas. Hulett, W. Norman Holmes, John J. Hyer, Vincent Hyer, Patrick Jos. Hyer, Jos. J. Hipp, Thos. Horan, Fred J. Hughes, Thos. H. Hughes, Chas. F. Hughes, Chas. E. Hughes, Chas. Hollish, Chas. Hipsley, Thos. Hargraves, Andrew E. Horbel, Jas. Milton Hirst, Christ Hurst, Samuel J. Hepner, John Herchock, Chas. Iluketis, John D. Jones, Errol T. Jones, Abram Jones, Wm. R. Jones, Wm. Johns, John Jewel, John A. Jacoby, John J. Jacoby, Wm. A. Jacoby, Harry D. Johnson, Benj. G. W. Kantner, Chas. A. Kantner, Frank Kantner, Chas. Kardasenic, Geo. Kardasenic, John Kardasenic, John W. Kelly, Harold Kull, Wm. L. Knight, Geo. Kaplan, Kastantas Kondratavich, Samuel Kanish, Alex. Kerpovish, Michael Kirtz, Wm. I. Krebs, Howard Krebs, Jas. Kirk, Jr.

Anthony Kosloskie, Christ Keller, Anthony Kubas, John J. Longhenry, Geo. Lundy, Jas. B. Lundy, Hugh Larkin, Lawrence Lishko, Abe Lefkowitz, Leon Lefkowitz, Geo. Lishman, Francis Lawless, Harry Liwis, Richard T. Lloyd, Jos. Lishman, Jos. H. Miller, John Matzko, Paul Missonis, Walter Marshal, Jos. S. Miller, Victor Markoige, Wm. G. Morris, David W. Morris, Chas. P. Marcavage, Anthony M. Marcavage, Geo. Martzen, Jas. J. Manion, Wm. F. Moran, Jos. F. Mohan, Wm. Morrow, Wm. J. Morgan, John Minnig, John E. Mettam, John V. Mahoney, Jos. G. Malone, Bernard J. McGuire, John P. McGuire, Peter McDonald, John J. McKernan, Michael McGonigle, John Manisko, Raymond M. Nolan, Ray F. Nicholls, Robert E. Oliver, Ray Orme, Wm. J. O'Connor, John F. Powell, James Powell, Michael Pollick, Walter Price, R. B. Price, Geo. Potty, Chas. Pierce, Anthony Payne, Jos. Parenty, Raymond Pilling, Pierre F. Quirin, Norman Robertson.

Melvin Robert, Harry S. Rhoads, Leo Reilley, Jos. M. Redding, Wm. J. Reilley, Foster T. Roberts, Robert R. Rodgers, Chas. A. Rubright, Earl B. Reese, Robert Reese, Warren Repscher, Adam Saricki, Chas. J. Schuster, Leonard L. Schuster, Chas. B. Short, Jos. Slakus, Jos. Sorentino, John W. Smith, John Smith, Fred G. Stednitz, John Stankavage, Guy C. Schultz, John Sorge, Andrew Sweat, Benj. Stephenson, Jos. Surma, Geo. J. Stein, Walter Supolskie, Chas. Starinski, Steve Shackey, Michael Stablukas, Edw. Stech, Wm. Sherman, Thos. S. Sweeney, Albert Shuey, Albert Sanzik, Frank Sindoskie, Chas. F. Schaeffer, Edward Schuck, John Tobin, Jos. S. Thorn, T. Donald Thorn, Harold W. Thorn, Raymond J. Thorn, Warren B. Thorn, Harry Titus, Thos. W. Thomas, Robert R. Thomas, John A. Thomas, Boone J. Thomas, Anthony Tirulis, Anthony Uravage, John Uhrin, Anthony Vorkol, John J. Volansky, John J. Wolff, George W. Wolff, Jr., Jas. E. Willingham.

Geo. Willingham, Edmund H. Williams, David J. Williams, Wm. G. Williams, Elmer J. Williams, Edw. J.

Williams, Jeremiah Williams, Clayton Williams, Jos. F. Wisnosky, Jos. B. White, Jos. Walunis, Earl M. Waters, Nelson Walker, Stiney Wirbicki, Alex. Werbitskie, Leo Ward, Frank A. Werner, Edw. Whittaker, Harold Wood, Oscar E. Welder, Wm. Wasley, Frank Weston, Robert F. Weaver, Jos. L. Yust, Yeagley, Peter Zulick, Michael Zelinskie, John Zelinskie, Michael Zoba, Paul Zerolis, John Zemitis.

New Castle: Samuel Angelo, Jas. Leo Barry, Edward Barry, John Bail, Geo. Buda, John P. Barry, Thos. Cummings, Michael Goblick, Peter Haley, Michael Haley, Michael Kelly, Patrick Kelly, Raymond Mahoney, Jas. Mahoney, Geo. Mahoney, Peter McCloskey, Clarence Newton, Edw. Price, Jas. Ryan, Howard Schappel, Julius S. Stein, Jas. Wilson.

East Mines: Jos. Heenan, Jos. F. Kerns, Thos. Parker, Jos. Parker.

Diener's Hill and Upper Mill Creek: Wm. J. Baldwin, Robert C. Barnes, Richard Barnes, Wm. Childs, Harry Childs, Chas. F. Dienner, Nicholas R. Diener, Wm. Evans, Wm. H. Jones, Clarence H. Hagan, Austin Krammes, Geo. Krammes, Vincent J. Morley, Leo J. McCullough, Jas. McDonald, Arthur E. Russell, Geo. Scott, John A. Stone, Jas. Stone, Nathaniel Sterner, John L. Tippin, Peter F. Winter, John Popovich.

Wadesville: Benj. Beadle, Ermy Beadle, Cecil Beadle, David S. Griffiths, Wm. Geisweit, Milton Hale, Elmer Haslam, Wm. Head, Rathburn R. Lewis, Ray Mullin, Chas. B. Williams, Wm. Webb.

Red Cross Nurses: Jeanette Barrett, Brigetta Benonis, Anna Stine, Bertha Williams.

Out of this large number, the following made the supreme sacrifice: Michael Duda, Herbert Baldwin, Wm. Montalto, Kenneth Davis, Robert Barnes, Michael Brennan, Louis De Angelo, John Hebor, Frederick Hossler, Jas. Kelly, Peter Polifka, John Quinn, Nicholas Touci, Wm. Gregg, Edward Boyer, John Stankewicz, and Jos. De Lellis.

St. Clair has the honor of having the first county boy killed in France, the first boy injured in battle, the only county boy in the torpedoed ship, Tuscania. Michael Duda and John Buchanan were the boys first killed, and on the torpedoed ship, Tuscania, respectively.

On Nov. 27, 1919, a grand celebration was held for the boys who were in the war and in honor of those who were dead. After a parade during the day, a banquet was held for the boys the same night. At this banquet, each one of the veterans was awarded gold medals. Services were held in every Protestant and Catholic Church in St. Clair.

Beside the men who rendered great service for their country, there were also a few girls who were war nurses; namely: Misses Jane Barrett, Lieutenant; Bertha Williams, Esther M. Maley, Brigetta Benonis, and Anna Stine. These girls not only rendered service in hospitals, but also in the Red Cross. Miss Williams is at the present in Governmental Service in the Battle Creek World War Hospital, in Michigan.

During the war, employment was quite favorable to the residents of St. Clair, but the food supply was somewhat scarce. The influenza epidemic took many lives in St. Clair.

The following are the contributions made to the various organizations: Liberty Bond Subscription, $953,000; War Stamps Sales, $100,000; Red Cross Contribution $7,253; Red Cross Membership, $4,066; Y. M. C. A., $1,172; K. of C. Contribution, $360; United War Fund Campaign, $3,500; Salvation Army Contributional, $1,000; Direct Aid to home

boys, $3,776; The Total Amount is, $1,074,127.

Boone Business Enterprises

The history of the outstanding business enterprises in St. Clair would not be complete without those business undertakings conducted by the Boone family. About sixty-five years ago there is a record of Ransloe Boone who by a distant relation traced his ancestry to Daniel Boone of history. Ransloe Boone, coming from Michigan, settled first in Columbia County where he met and married Ann Harder Hughes. Later this couple moved to Five Points, then to Port Carbon and then to St. Clair. It was in St. Clair that the story of the Boone family in conducting of business enterprises had its beginning. Ransloe Boone's family consisted of nine, the eldest of whom is William Agard; Harriet who became the wife of Wm. W. Abbott, of Philadelphia; Frances who married F. O. Bostley, of Williamsport; Geo. H., who in 1894 graduated from the Hahnemann Medical College at Philadelphia, and in 1895 opened his offices in Pottsville; Edwin Chapin, who became a wholesale dry goods merchant; Margaretta, who became the wife of A. T. Dice, the general superintendent of the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad; May J. of Reading; John Milton (deceased) who became a lawyer and played a leading role in the real estate development of the town; and Harry R. (deceased) of Pottsville.

Ransloe Boone came to St. Clair about 65 years ago and clerked in the store for a Mr. Price. A few years later he purchased the Boone Store which was located for many years at 2nd and Franklin Streets. The store was known under the name of R. Boone and Son. The son was W. A. Boone of town. At the death of Ransloe Boone the store business was carried on under the name of Boone Brothers. Later W. A. Boone and E. C. Boone bought the interests of their brothers.

While still in the store business, Ransloe Boone built the St. Clair Grain Elevator which was operated in connection with the store. After a year or two, W. A. Boone became sole proprietor of the Grain Elevator and E. C. Boone became sole proprietor of the store. The store was later closed and turned into a factory.

The Elevator has continued in business ever since it was built, which is over a period of 40 years and serves many points of Schuylkill County. In 1922, W. A. Boone took his son, E. H. Boone in as a partner and in 1924, W. B. Straub a son-in-law bought W. A. Boone's interests. At this time the St. Clair Grain Elevator is still under the ownership of W. B. Straub and E. H. Boone and under the foremanship of D. R. Morgan, who has rendered 52 years of service in the Boone firms.

The J M. Boone building located at 2nd and Carroll Sts., is one of the many real estate enterprises undertaken by the Boone family. Diener's Hill, Shaft Hill, and Arnout's Addition have each been influenced in their real estate development by the Boone interests.

Incidentally, the name of St. Clair has been made more popular, since through this family, a son of St. Clair was to be honored by the past three Presidents in capacity of their family physician. Commander Joel T. Boone, son of W. A. Boone, served as White House Physician under the presidency of President Harding, President Coolidge and President Hoover.

THE CHURCHES

St. Boniface's Church

In 1852, the Catholics of St. Clair were given permission by the Right Rev. Bishop Neumann to build a church. The church was built, and today is the oldest, or one of the oldest in St. Clair. At the present time there are more than four hundred members in this congregation.

On Oct. 30, 1853, Bishop Neumann visited St. Clair and solemnly blessed the newly finished frame church. The first Pastor was Father Wincellaus Joames Repis, who remained from February, 1853, to August, 1854. He was succeeded by the Rev. Joseph Hamm, who remained pastor until 1858. In 1858 Bishop Neumann authorized the blessing of a cemetery for the use of the English-speaking Catholics in St. Clair. The Rev. Severin Sommer was appointed after Rev. Hamm, and remained in residence until December, 1860, when the Rev. Phillip Woerner was sent as pastor, remaining until October, 1861. The next pastor was the Rev. Francis Louis Newfeld, who remained nearly a year. After him came the Rev. Alphonsus M. Schedle, who was pastor until February, 1864, when he was succeeded by the Rev. Herman A. Depmann. In May, 1869, Rev. B. Dornege was appointed pastor and remained in charge until 1872.

In June, 1872, Rev. John Gerhard Freude became pastor and remained until 1879, and was succeeded by the Rev. Frederick Schleble, who remained until December 1882, when the Rev. A. Misteli was sent.

During Father Misteli's administration many improvements were made to the church. In Jan. 1889, the Rev. Jos. J. Nerz succeeded Father Misteli and remained until he was appointed to a church in Phila., in 1894. The next pastor was the Rev. Chas. Ignatius Sauers, who remained until 1902, when he became rector of the Church of the Most Blessed Sacrament, the oldest Catholic church edifice in Pennsylvania. Succeeding Father Sauers was the Rev. Albert M. Korves, known to the people of St. Clair as a modest, humble, and most faithful priest. The present incumbent, the Rev. Joseph A. Schaefer, was born in Reading, received his early education there, studied at St. Vincent's College, near Latrobe, Pa., and at St. Charles Seminary, Overbrook, Pa. He was ordained into the priesthood on June 1, 1901. He celebrated his first Solemn Mass in St. Paul's Church, Reading, June 2, 1901. After serving well the several missions to which he was sent, he became the kind and gentle pastor of St. Boniface's. In 1928, Father Schaefer remodeled the Church from a frame building to a brick building. Its location is on the corner of Nicholas and Lawton Sts.

Those who entered the priesthood from Saint Boniface's parish are the Reverends Augustine Wachter, John Gottshall, Peter Schaaf, Jos. Plappert (all dead); Joseph Scholly and Peter Gottschall (living).

The Sisterhood claimed the following daughters of St. Boniface's parish, five of whom have gone from this world and four who are now living. Among those who are dead are: Hannah Klein (Sister Simeona), Dora Klein (Sister Pulcheria), Margaret Plappert (Sister Elisea), all of the order of the Franciscans; Mary Scholly (Sister Ursula) and Elizabeth Tillman both of the order of the Malinkrodt. Among those who are now living are. Lena Baur (Sister Dolorosa), Catherine Scholl (Sister Leoeadia), both of the Malinkrodt Order; Elizabeth Baur of Christian Charity Order.

St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church

The first Catholic Church founded in St. Clair, was St. Bonfacius (German) in the year of 1853. Catholics of all nationalities attended services here. As the Irish population grew, the time came when they felt they could build and support a church of their own. They made a request of the Bishop to grant them this favor. On investigation this favor was granted and in the latter part of August, 1863, plans for the erection of St. Mary's Catholic Church were drawn by Architect E. F. Durang, of Pottsville, under the direction of Rev. N. J. Walsh, at this time stationed in Pottsville.

Excavation began in the early part of September. While the church was under construction, services were held in what is now known as Walker's Hall. The first church services in this hall were celebrated May 1, 1864, by Father Brehony.

The church was ready for occupancy around Christmas time and Mass was offered for the first time on Christmas Day by the Rev. Jas. A. Brehony, pastor appointed to the charge. Father Brehony served in capacity of pastor for a period of twelve years, and was succeeded by Rev. Philip McEnroe. The following priests have succeeded one another: Rev. Michael McEnroe, 1877-79, Rev. M. J. Gately, 1879-92, Rev. Hugh McGettigan, 1892-94, Rev. J. J. O'Connor, 1894-1911, Rev. George P. Degnan, 1911-18, Rev. John J. Flemming, 1918-19, Rev. John Mellon, 1919-21, Rev. J. J. McCloskey, 1921, who is the present pastor.

The present school and convent under the direction of the Sisters of St. Joseph, were built during the pastorate of Rev. Geo. P. Degnan.

The data received from a few of the remaining parishioners who were present at the First Mass in Saint Mary's Church on Christmas Day, seventy years ago, tell of the very severe winter and how they suffered with the cold for there were only a few small stoves in the church, and how the day before they worked so hard to clean it and most of the time had to stay around the stoves to keep from freezing.

God has blessed the efforts of these early settlers in giving them this Church in which they had the happiness to worship. Their children and grandchildren also share a like privilege.

The membership at the present time numbers about 1400 members. There are about 350 children attending school .

Among those who entered the priesthood from St. Mary's parish are: The Reverends Edw. Corcoran, Martin Walsh, Patrick Harkins, Patrick McMahon, Thomas Justin McMahon, John J. McCullough, F. M., Wm. Sullivan (all dead), Thos. Hanney, Leo Mitchell and John Hughes (living).

St. Mary's Parish has also made many contributions to the membership in the Sisterhood. Among those who have entered the sisterhood and have gone to the great beyond are: Mary Conry (Sister St. George); Mary Rafferty (Mother Gabriel); Mary Deeghan (Mother Ida); all of the Order of the Sisters of St. Joseph; Mary Miles (Mother Placida); Ellen Deeghan (Sister Anselma); Ellen Walsh (Sister Felicitas), all of the Order of the Immaculate Heart. Among those who have entered the sisterhood and are now living are: Anna McCullough (Sister Mary Cyrille); Beatrice Howe (Sister Beatrice); Mary Burns (Sister Regina Gertrude); Margaret Mahoney (Sister Eleanor Gertrude); Margaret Donahue (Sister Miriam Gertrude); Elizabeth Mitchell (Sister Gertrude Immaculate); Mary Barrett (Sister Dennis Marie); (Sister

Mary Gabrielle), Mary McCormick, all of these of the Order of the Sisters of St. Joseph; Bridget Manion (Sister Raymond) of the Franciscan Order.

Saint Casimir's Lithuanian

The Lithuanian people first held their services at the Slovak's chapel, about the year of 1912. Rev. Dumcus, the pastor of the Lithuanian parish of Minersville, came to St. Clair every Sunday to hold services.

Then in 1913, Rev. Kutas, the pastor of the Shenandoah parish, also came to St. Clair every Sunday to hold services for the Lithuanian people in the Massonis building, on Second St. and the Columbia Hall. He also began to organize the parish.

In 1915, he was replaced by Rev. Durickas, who held services in the basement of the Irish Catholic Church. He also served as a pastor for the Polish people at the same time. The Lithuanian people separated from the Polish, and then their services were held in the German Parochial School. While Rev. Durickas was the pastor, they purchased a piece of land on South Nicholas St., in Sept., 1916, where the construction of the church was begun on April 1, 1917. The cornerstone of the church was laid on May 30, and the church was completed on Oct. 22, 1917. The dedication of the church took place on Oct. 29, 1917. In 1918, Rev. Durickas left the parish and Rev. Rastutis took his place as the pastor of St. Casimir's Church and remained for a period of five years. In 1923 Rev. Meizvinis became the pastor and stayed until 1925, when he was given a parish in the state of New Jersey.

After Rev. Meizvinis left, Rev. Bula was sent to the St. Casimir's parish as pastor, for about two months. Then Rev. Klevence became pastor of the church on Sept. 14, 1925 and left in March, 1926.

In March, 1926, the present pastor, Rev. Matulaitis succeeded Rev. Klevence. During his pastorate he has helped the parish members in purchasing a parish cemetery.

This parish has given one daughter to the Sisterhood: Ellen Puches (Sister Mary Victoria) of the Order of St. Francis.

Saint John's Slovak Lutheran

The present Slovak Lutheran Church building is the former one of the St. John's German Reformed and Lutheran Church. The German Reformed Congregational Society was organized in 1853 by Rev. Gatenbein. Jacob Farne was elected and ordained elder and Herman Wolf, deacon. Rev. I. D. Graeff was the next pastor. During his pastorate the society joined with the Evangelic Lutheran congregation and they erected a building to be used by both societies. It was dedicated Oct. 21, 1855. The building cost was about $2,000. In 1856, the German Reformed Society called Rev. J. D. Graeff. He was followed by Rev. Samuel Miller, Wm. Rupps, John Clemans, and Albert Stauffer, who resigned in 1876. The society consisted of 110 members in 1863. The Sunday School had John Super as Superintendent.

The Lutheran Society sold their rights and withdrew May 6, 1873. They reorganized with 20 members under the name of "Evangelical Lutheran-Zion Congregation." Nov. 2, 1873, they dedicated their new building on Nicholas St., which with the lot, cost $2,000. Their first pastor was G. A. Hinterleitner, succeeded by John Nicum, followed by W. H. Kuntz of Sch. Haven.

The property was rented by the Slovak Congregation from the German Lutherans from 1907 to 1920, a period of 14 years. The mem-

bership was about 15 families. In 1921 the property was bought and improved. This cost about $37,000 in all. Rev. L. Sanjek, stayed here for only six months. He was from Mahanoy City. Rev. Benko of Lansford succeeded him. He served from 1921 to 1926. He was succeeded by Rev. Stephen Zima of Mt. Carmel. He served from 1926 to 1929. From 1921 to the present time, Rev. John Janis of Mt. Carmel was the pastor. The church was helped to organize through the Pottsville Conference. The chartered officers and elders were: Michael Suek, deceased; George Kovich, deceased; Mr. Gregar, Treasurer; Michael Tranosky and Martin Habre, elders. In 1927 the organ was bought and Steve Kovich was the organist, Miss Sarah Kovich is the present organist. The present officers are John Palo, Pres.; Paul Gregor, Secty.; John Gregor, Rector.

St. Peter's and Paul's Polish Church

On March 15, 1906, Peter Wysocki, Michael Sokolowski and Joseph Andziewski founded the first Polish society in St. Clair. The society at first had a membership of fourteen. In the same year they formed a parish and rented the Masonic Hall for services. The first service was held by the Rev. Frug. The next pastor was the Rev. Zybura, but, because of the small number of Polish people in St. Clair, services were discontinued until 1912.

In 1912 the people made an agreement with the Rev. Olishienski of Cumbola to have services. On Jan. 27, 1912, services were renewed at Columbia Hall, and a new era was opened to the Polish people of St. Clair. At a parish meeting in February, 1912, a committee was selected to enlist the names of the families and people who belonged to the parish. The result showed 35 families and 26 single men. But due to the energetic work of the committee and its chairman, Nicholas Olewicz, the parish grew in numbers.

In order to strengthen the feeling of friendliness and comradeship in the parish, a society, Group 1517 of the Polish National Alliance, a branch of the John Sobieskie Society, was established in 1912. In the same year a parish priest, Rev. Dudzik, was obtained from the bishop. After completing his first mass in the Columbia Hall, Rev. Dudzik rented the basement of the St. Mary's Irish Church for service purposes. In 1914, he was succeeded by Rev. S. Olishienski. Services in the Irish Church basement were held for both Polish and Lithuanian people, but due to a disagreement they separated.

It was then that Rev. Olishienski bought a two lot site on North Mill St., where the church now stands. Before plans were completed for the building of the church, Rev. Olishienski was transferred to Phoenixville. The next priest was Rev. Sulek, who began his work in 1916. He remained for two years, and was succeeded by Rev. Kucharski, under whose supervision a church costing six thousand dollars was built in 1919. In 1922, Rev. Kucharski was replaced by Rev. Miodusiewski. In Rev. Miodusiewski's term the debt of the church was paid. Next came Rev. Joseph Kloscinski. In the eight years of his pastorate the church was rebuilt and repainted, a bell was bought, a new pipe organ was installed and a new cemetery obtained. Early in 1933, Rev. Kloscinski was succeeded by Rev. Lorenc, who is the present pastor.

List of pastors: Rev. Frug, 1906; Rev. Zybura, 1906; Services discontinued until 1912; Rev. S. Olishienski, 1912; Rev. Dudzik, 1912-1914; Rev. Olishienski, 1912-1916; Rev. Sulek, 1916-1918; Rev. Kucharski, 1918-1922; Rev. Miodusiewski, 1922-1925; Rev. Kloscinski, 1925-1933; Rev. Lorenc 1933.

St. Mary's Russian Orthodox

The St. Mary's Russian Orthodox Church, located at Lawton and Nicholas Sts., was organized Sept. 7, 1907. The first services were held by Rev. Michael Fekula. After the first services they held a parish meeting. At this meeting they selected a building committee, consisting of Pres., Alexander Chylack; Treas., Frank Cidelo; Secy., Evgny Gogotz; and the Trustees: Paul Onuchak, Frank Gogotz, Peter Zukoff, Steve Hatala, Demetrick Yadlosky, John Gogotz, Philip Fecenko, Nicholas Plewka, John Okol, Demetrick Malotchak, and Jacob Oletcucs. The dedication of the church took place about 1908, by Archbishop Platon.

The pastors in their order were: Rev. Fekula, Rev. Warkol, Rev. Ychmenoff, Rev. Basalega, Rev. Lampart, Rev. Sinofsky, Rev. Svigoon, Rev. Kultzsky, Rev. Sukostousky, Rev. Lilikowitz, and the present, Rev. Basal Petretzky.

Slovak Presbyterian Church

The Slovak people began to come to this region about 1900. The first church meetings and worship services were held in the homes of the various members until 1905. The first missionary was Rev. A. J.Kohut, of Erie, Pa. He came here in 1905 and stayed until 1910. He was succeeded by Miss Horak and Mr. Sintak, who stayed here until 1920.

During these fifteen years the Slovak people met in Super's Hall, located on the corner of Second and Hancock Sts. The membership was about 40. This has grown to about 105.

The church was granted a charter in 1920, its first elders were: Paul Botto and Mike Maksim, both members being very active in the present church. The church entered the Lehigh Presbytery in 1920. The first Sunday services were conducted in the old Welsh Baptist building on Front St. This building was rented for 13 years, from 1920 to 1933. The new edifice was dedicated on Sept. 24, 1933. The dedication was attended by about 300 people, representing many cities and towns in Ohio, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania, where Slovak people live.

The edifice cost about $23,000, including the manse. The buildings are built of brick. The membership in Sunday School is about 60, and Christian Endeavor, 35. The choir consists of twenty-four boys and girls.

The present pastor is Rev. George Bardarick, who has been here since 1920. The organist is Miss A. Knezo.

The Holy Apostles Church

The first services of the Church of the Holy Apostles were held under the direction of the Rev. Thos. A. Starkey, later Bishop of Neward, in the year of 1847. These services were held in the second story, front room, of Super's Store. Later services were held in a school house located on Front St. Mr. Starkey continued in charge of the work until 1849. During the ministry of the Rev. D. Washburn, of Pottsville, the corner-stone of the church was laid, in 1854. The parish between the years 1854-76 was served by twelve priests. At the consecration of the church, Rev. Wm. C. Leighton, of Christ Church, Reading, preached the sermon. During a portion of the time between 1876

and later years, St. Clair and the Mission at Frackville were served by one priest. Rev. C. A. Marks resigned these Missions, June 30, 1896, after a ministry of fourteen years. During Lent, 1898, Bishop Talbot combined Minersville with St. Clair, Frackville being merged with Mahanoy City. On Thursday after the first Sunday after Trinity, 1903, the independence of St. Clair from Minersville was effected. Rev. H. W. Armstrong then devoted his entire time to St. Clair.

Under the direction of Rev. Thos. T. Butler, who became rector June 21, 1908, a successful Bible Class was conducted, and the Parish Home was erected in 1909. It was planned in 1916 to merge St. Clair's work with that at Frackville. Under Rev. Harry G. Mershon, who became rector on Aug. 8, 1927, material advance was made in some respect: the Church School was reorganized; a new pipe organ was installed; the interior of the Church was remodeled. Improvements and alterations were made to the Rectory, which was enlarged. The Junior Choir was developed. The financial system of the Church was revised. The rather sudden death of Mr. Mershon, on Aug. 9, 1930, was a cause of general sorrow.

On Oct. 4, 1930, Rev. Joseph McClung Brownlee became rector. Since that time, the church property has been put in generally good condition; the interior of the church has been redecorated, through the Altar Guild; the Parish House has been much improved, with an enlarged and modernized stage, and the whole interior redecorated and repainted. This was accomplished by the hard work of an interested group of church workers. The church property, including the rectory has been painted, and the heating plant thoroughly renovated. The Parish House will shortly be reroofed.

Even during the dark day of the most long-continued and most widespread depression the nation has ever known, with heads up, and with that vision and courage and will to work which have served our people so well on many occasions in the past, this parish—84 years young—goes forward with confidence into an era of enlarged usefulness and wider service to God, to mankind, and to this community in particular.

The parish of the Holy Apostles has given to this church, Bishop George Wood who has given to the cause of the church invaluable years of service.

Methodist Episcopal Church

The St. Clair Methodist Episcopal Church was organized in 1848, and connected with Port Carbon Episcopal Church during the pastorate of Rev. J. D. Bowen. On the following year, the supervision was changed to the Pottsville Church. This relation continued for many years.

In the spring of 1855, St. Clair became an independent charge, the first pastor being S. W. Kurtz. In 1904-05, Rev. E. Dewerty was the pastor. During the following year the remaining debt on the parsonage was paid; the Sunday School rooms were painted and new electric fixtures took the place of old cheap ones.

The conference year of 1905-06 ended with great success. The only thing at the beginning of the year to loom up was the impending strike. In 1907, new improvements on the church were made; and on Dec. 15, 1907, a beautiful church was reopened. On Oct. 12, 1908, Chas. Short, one of the citizens of

the town, began work of putting in a hot water plant.

Application was made to the Court of Common Pleas of Schuylkill County on Monday, June 30, 1908, for approval of a charter to the Trustees. A year later, Rev. Clarence J. Benjamin got the charter of the church, modernized, permitting women to vote.

One thousand dollars were spent in the new furnishings. The following furnishings were placed in the kitchen. A set of stationary tubs through the efforts of Mrs. Moser, two sectional bookcases for study, chimneys were rebuilt. At the church, new hymnals were purchased and another pulpit was placed. Realizing the need of beautifying the church, a committee was appointed to consider the matter. The following were appointed: John Kinkaid, A. N. Krebs, W. M. Manuel, Arthur Davis, Benj. P. Urch. In May, two hundred and fifty dollars was set apart as an improvement fund. In October, from the estate of Mimirod Beadle of Schickshinny, Pa., a gift of one hundred dollars was added to this fund.

The membership has had a steady increase.

Rev. James Symons is the only son from this parish to have entered the ministry.

St. John's Reformed Church

St. John's Reformed Congregation was organized in January, 1853, by the Rev. Gautenbein. Rev. Gautenbein preached every four weeks for about fifteen months, when he was called to another charge. His successor was the Rev. I. D. Graeff.

In 1855, measures were taken to build a church to be owned and used as a joint property of the Reformed and Evangelical Lutheran congregations. The lot on which the church was built cost $300. The building committee consisted of Jacob Forne and George Stahl. The cornerstone was laid July 1, 1855. The ministers present were Rev. I. D. Graeff, Reformed; and Revs. Ehrhart, Menning and Steck, Lutheran.

The dedication of the church took place on Oct. 21, 1855. The ministers who were present were Revs. I. G. Graeff, Ehrhart, Walz, and Steck. The cost of the church, including the lot, amounted to $1,-925.

The committee which bought the lot consisted of Mr. Buechley, and Mr. Forne, Rev. I. D. Graeff served the congregation till April, 1857.

In January 1858, the Rev. Samuel Miller took charge of the congregation and preached every four weeks, until January 1861, when he was informed to preach every two weeks. At this time the membership of the Congregation was 55. At the close of Rev. Miller's 6 years of service, Jan. 1, 1864, the congregation totalled a membership of 110.

Rev. Wm. Rupp was called as pastor Jan. 8, 1865, and served the congregation for two years. His successor was Rev. J. M. Clemens, whose term was from 1869-72. The Rev. Albert Stauffer came in 1872. During his term arose the pastorate dissension between the two occupants of the property, the Reformed and Lutheran congregations. On Feb. 6, 1873, an agreement was drawn up and signed by Michael Brown and Wm. Mineholt for Lutheran Congregation, and Lewis Koch and Christian Honicker, for Reformed Congregation, whereby for the sum of $1,825 the Lutheran Congregation relinquished to the Reformed Congregation all rights, titles, liens, etc. that they held to the lot, property

and devices of said union Church. On May 6, the Reformed Congregation secured deed to the property and the Lutheran Congregation vacated premises.

Rev. Stauffer resigned in 1877, and was succeeded by Rev. Steckel, who in turn was succeeded by Revs. Stein, Albright and Mishler, until 1889, when the congregation was reorganized by Rev. Bartholomew, then pastor of Trinity Reformed Church of Pottsville, and later, until his death in 1933, the General Secretary to the Board of Foreign Missions, assisted by Rev. Stofflet, now of Hazleton. During this pastorate the congregation took on a new life and activity. In May, 1890, the Rev. Stofflet resigned and was succeeded by Rev. Bower. The work prospered when at the close of 6 years' service, he was succeeded by the Rev. Irvin Wagner, who served until March, 1901.

Plans were being made for a new place of worship. Rev. Wagner was succeeded by Rev. Peters, then pastor of the First Reformed Church, Pottsville. On April 13, 1902, the old building was vacated with an imposing farewell service. The congregation took up quarters for ten months, without rental charge, in the hall of brother John A. Super.

The cornerstone of the new building was laid June 15, 1902, many pastors being present. The dedication took place Sunday Feb. 22, 1903. It was a memorable day for the congregation. The entire cost of building and accessories was $4,200.

May 31, 1903, Rev. Peters resigned, removing to Philadelphia, to engage in mission work for the Board of Home Missions. Aug. 1, 1903, Rev. Dreisbach assumed the pastoral supply, having been elected pastor of First Reformed Church, Pottsville, during the month of July. Rev. Dreisbach's pastorate was one of the most helpful ever experienced by the congregation.

On Oct. 22, 1905, the fiftieth anniversary of the church's founding was celebrated.

Feb. 7, 1908, marked the time of the cancelling of church debt. The lot on which the parsonage is built was purchased for $180. A legacy of $400, bequeathed to the church by Mrs. Mary Close, widow of Benj. Close, formed the nucleus of the purchase money. The building was erected in 1911-12 and was ready for occupancy May, 1912. The approximate cost with heat, fixtures, walk, etc., was $4,000.

Rev. Faust was elected to the pastorate August 1, 1912. Rev. Faust's successor was Rev. Behrens, who was elected April 17, 1921. The new church building was dedicated Dec. 2, 1928.

The following is the financial selling and financial report of the present building: Purchase of lot on N. Mill St., Aug. 31, 1922. This congregation received aid from Schuylkill classis, totaling $3,790. The last service was held in old church May 6, 1928.

J. Edw. Scherr, a member of the church for 65 years turned out the first shovelful of dirt for the new building, on May 7, 1928. Rev. Behrens resigned September, 1929, after serving for nine years. The present pastor Rev. Wm. Snyder was elected Dec. 8, 1929 and the call was accepted Jan. 1, 1930. During two years and eight months of his ministry, fine works for history have been made. The church debt has been greatly reduced. It is the hope of the pastor and congregation that the past 79 years of the Saint John's Reformed Church be a spur for the greater and best in the future. The number of members is about 300.

List of pastors: 1853-54, Rev. Mr. Gautenbein; 1854-57, Rev. I. D. Graeff; 1858-64, Rev. Samuel Miller; 1865-67, Rev. Wm. Rupp, D. D.; 1869-72, Rev. J. M. Clemens; 1872-77, Rev. Albert S. Stauffer; 1877-89, Revs. Lewis Steckel, Chrisman, J. P. Stein, Albright, and Mishler; 1889, Rev. Allen R. Bartholomew, D. D.; 1889-90, Rev. S. E. Stofflet, D. D. (Assistant); 1890-96, Rev. J. T. Bower; 1896-1901, Rev. Irvin F. Wagner; 1901-03, Rev. Morgan A. Peters; 1903-08, Rev. A. F. Dreisbach, Ph. D. Resident pastors: 1908-11, Rev. Chas. E. Rupp; 1912-21, Rev. E. Franklin Faust; 1921-30, Rev. Harry A. Behrens; 1930-, Rev. Wm. H. Snyder.

St. Mary's Greek Catholic

With a congregation of about three hundred families, the people of the St. Michael's Greek Catholic Church decided to have a new edifice erected in order to carry on divine worship.

In the year 1925, work on the new edifice was started by Rev. Stefen Petrick, who was pastor at the time. The work progressed very nicely until the building was about half completed, when for financial difficulties the work was brought to a standstill. The pastor, Rev. Stefen Petrick was forced out of the parish house. The case was taken to court with decision being handed down to the majority of the St. Michael's Church. The case was then appealed to the Supreme Court by Rev. Stefen Petrick, and Michael Pouchan, who was the president of the small congregation. The case was dismissed from the Supreme Court and again taken to the Schuylkill County Court. Here the case was again awarded to the majority.

With a membership of about one hundred fifty families Rev. Stefen Petrick took up worship in the basement of the St. Mary's Church of St. Clair. In 1929, Rev. Stefen Petrick was replaced by Rev. Julius Voytovich. Remaining here for several months, he was replaced by Rev. Cornelius Artim.

Rev. Artim was replaced by the present pastor, Rev. John Koval, in 1931. For many years Rev. John Koval was pastor of the Ukranian Church of St. Clair. The transfer was brought about by the change of Rev. John Koval from the Ukranian Diocese to that of the Greek Catholic Diocese, in 1931. After remaining for two years Rev. John Koval began work on a new church. At this time the name of the church was changed from St. Michael's Church to that of St. Mary's Greek Catholic Church. Work on the new building was completed in November, 1933. The dedication of the church took place on Thanksgiving Day, Nov. 30, 1933.

St. Mary's Immaculate Conception

About the year 1903 a movement for the erection of a church for the Catholic Slovak people of St. Clair and surrounding towns, was brought about by Father Schaff and Monsignor Heinen. The site picked was part of Dormer's Farm, at the southeastern part of the town. The land was worth about $5,000 and the church about $9,000. After the death of Father Schaff, different pastors of other parishes came and had services here, until Father Stanek arrived from Europe.

The parish grew so rapidly that in 1913, a new Slavish Church was erected by the congregation at a cost of over $25,000. It was one of the achievements that had considerable to do with the improvement of that section. It was erected on the site of the old picnic grounds, about 50 yards from the other church, with Rev. Klouchek and a board of trustees in charge. The building is one of the most beautiful churches in

the county. The parsonage was also remodeled.

In 1921, the church was condemned and the church services were again conducted in the old church. In 1928, through a movement on the part of Rev. Ravnikar (the present pastor), the condemned church was remodeled and reinforced with steel girders. In 1929, services were once again held in the new church. A great deal of improvement was also made to the surroundings. The old church is now used as a social hall.

The pastors in order are: Monsignor Heinen, Rev. Schaff, Rev. Stanek, Rev. Dondalek, Rev. Herman, Rev. Sternad, Rev. Pospech, Rev. Klouchek, Rev. Kucharic, Rev. Labuda, and Rev. Ravnikar.

St. Michael's Church

The Russian people that emigrated here from Carpatho, Russia, Czechoslovakia, and Galacia united in 1897 and organized St. Michael's Eastern Rite Greek Catholic Church. The same year they purchased a building on N. Nicholas St., from the Episcopalians and rebuilt it as a church. In 1904, they added a large tower to the building. The following year the people that came from Galacia broke away from the church. The remaining members built a large parsonage on N. Morris St. in 1910. In 1924, the church was moved from Nicholas St. to Morris St., and on June 2, 1924, the building of the new church was started. In 1925, the work ceased, due to some misunderstandings. It was not taken up again until 1929, when Rev. A. S. Slepecky came here as pastor of the church, and the building was dedicated Nov. 24, 1932.

The following were pastors of St. Michael's Church: 1898, Rev. N. Mulchany; 1898, Rev. John Hrabar; 1898, Rev. John Zaklinsky; 1900, Rev. Peter Kiselyak; 1900, Rev. Geo. Gulonich; 1901, Rev. Victor Popovich; 1903, Right Rev. Andrew Hodobay; 1903, Rev. Julius Polyansky; 1904, Rev. Emilius Artimovich; 1910, Rev. Eugenius Volkay; 1911, Rev. Vornelius Grabovsky; 1922, Rev. Petrick; 1929, Rev. A. S. Slepecky.

St. Nicholas Greek Catholic

The Saint Nicholas Greek Catholic Church originated from the St. Michael's Church. In 1905, due to some misunderstanding, families separated from this church obtained some land at North Morris Street, between Hancock and Franklin Sts. Later Rev. Leviskey was stationed here by the Bishop and had charge of the building of the church, which was completed in a few years. A few years later a parsonage was built at North Mill St. The church is still located at North Morris St. The congregation is composed of over one hundred and fifty families from St. Clair and surrounding towns.

The pastors of St. Nicholas Greek Catholic Church were as follows: Rev. Leviskey, Rev. Pelenskie, Rev. Splotakvich, Rev. Fekula, Rev. Welogarskie, Rev. Kaminsky, Rev. Skrotskie, Rev. Koratosky, Rev. Koval, Rev. Dobrotbiur, Rev. Rudakevich.

Primitive Methodist

The St. Clair Primitive Methodist Church was organized in the year of 1831. Its meetings were held in the old school house in the Borough Cemetery. It was the first church organization in town. Not only is it the oldest church in St. Clair, but it is the only church that can boast of having one of the founders of its denominational life among its former ministry. Hugh Borne, founder of Primitive Methodism, visited America around the year 1845 and ministered from its pulpit for quite a time.

The first church building was erected in 1847 at a cost of about $2,000. It was a frame building, located on the present church site. Rev. A. Miller was the pastor. A parsonage was purchased in 1864 at a cost of $700. The Rev. Chas. Spur was then the minister in charge. In 1868, Rev. S. Horwell came, and during his pastorate the church was improved at a cost of $1,400. During Rev. J. W. Reed's pastorate, in 1875, the present church building was erected at a cost of $7,500. The old building has become unfit for use in consequence of the caving of old coal workings under it. The corner stone was laid with Masonic ceremonies Sept. 12, 1876. In the year 1899, the last of the indebtedness was paid off during the Ministry of Rev. W. H. Acornley.

But dark days succeeded the brighter ones. Industrial conditions caused many of the members to move away from town. The membership was so depleted that the faith of the few was shaken for the future of the work and a request was sent to Conference in 1912, to abandon the work. Instead of complying with the request, Conference stationed the Rev. T. W. Jones in this charge. Rev. Jones, with firm faith and convictions rallied the forces to the work. The tide turned and gradually the work has grown until it became one of the strongest congregations among the Protestant Churches of St. Clair.

Rev. T. W. Jones arrived on the field in 1912. Repairs to the church building took place at once. About $600 was spent in painting, electrifying the auditorium and other repairs. In 1914, the seating plan was changed, new art glass windows were placed in the upper room, and a steam heating plant was installed with other repairs and improvements. In 1920, during the pastorate of Rev. John Stephens, the old parsonage on Nicholas St. was sold and a modern building was erected on the adjoining property, north of the church. The cost was $13,000. During the pastorate of Rev. W. J. Reseigh, in 1925, the church underwent more notable changes. The auditorium and halls were beautified with metal covering at a cost of $3,845. A tower was erected, beautifying the front of the church, at a cost of $3,075. A social hall was constructed to the rear of the church at a cost of about $5,000. The Sunday School rooms were redecorated and improved at a cost of $1,650, while the exterior of the Church was painted and other incidentals totaling over $2,000. The total cost of these improvements was in the neighborhood of $16,000. The debt at this writing is about $2,500.

Among the first ministers to serve this church, although the exact date of each pastorate is not known, are: Rev. Wm. Sanders, Rev. B. Webber, Rev. T. Burroughs, Rev. C. Spur, Rev. T. Foster, Rev. Wm. Smith, 1845; Rev. Hugh Bornes, 1850-1860. It is not certain who served the church owing to circuit work: 1847, Rev. Alexander Miller; 1860, Revs. Edward Crompton, Thos. Butterwich, Geo. Parker; 1864-68, Rev. Chas. Spur; 1863-72, Rev. Samuel Howell; 1872-73, Rev. Frank Gray; 1873-75, Rev. Henry G. Russell; 1875-79, Rev. J. W. Reed; 1879-81, Rev. J. H. Acornley; 1881-83, Rev. Savage; 1883-85, Rev. N. W. Matthews; 1885-87, Rev. J. Eva; 1887-89, Rev. J. Sutcliffe; 1889-92, Rev. P. M. Cousens; 1892-94, Rev. J. Sutcliffe; 1894-97, Rev. J. W. Richards; 1897-99, Rev. W. H. Acornley; 1899-1902, Rev. J. Bath; 1902-07, Rev. W. H. Holder; 1907-09, Rev. A. J. Cook; 1909-12, Rev. J. Bath; 1912-17, Rev. T. W. Jones; 1917-22, Rev. J. Stephens;

1922-29, Rev. W. J. Reseigh; Rev. J. E. Such, 1929-31; Rev. J. H. Magee, 1931—.

Cold type cannot begin to tell the history of the romance of Primitive Methodism in St. Clair. Stories of self-sacrifice and heroism on the part of the membership belongs not only to the first but to all the years of its history. At the present time a membership of about 150 is working hard to clear away the indebtedness. They realize their church has played an important part in the moral life of the community, and are determined to push the work to a successful issue.

Baptist Church

In the year of 1862, the Welsh Church was organized on S. Front St., opposite the present location.

In 1855, they built the first church, and Rev. Wm. Morgan was the pastor for twenty years. He was pastor in three towns, namely, St. Clair, Pottsville, and Belmont, near Five Points.

This Welsh Church was a branch of the Pottsville Church. The only surviving members of this church are: Mrs. Mary Griffiths, the Misses Mary, Naomi and Ruth Jones, who are also members of the present Baptist Church, which is located on North Front St.

The St. Clair Baptist Church was the out-growth of a Sunday School instituted in the Welsh Church in 1870 by Brother Sanford Morgan, and his wife Emily, both teachers.

In order not to conflict with the Welsh services, Sunday School convened at 9 A. M. and Church services at 4 P. M., conducted by Rev. A. H. Sembower, of Pottsville.

Feb. 16, 1871, an organization was affected in the school house, as a branch of the Pottsville Church, under the leadership of Rev. Sembower and Sanford Morgan.

Brother Daniel Griffith was elected clerk; John Beadle, deacon and leader; and James Powell, Moderator.

The following were present and united in the movement: Wm. Waters, Ann Waters, T. D. Griffith, Ann Griffith, John R. Williams, Mary R. Griffith, Jas. Britton, Jane Llewellyn, Robert Humphreys, Elvira Lewis, David and Ann Griffith, Esther Thomas, Mary Beadle and Jas. Kelly.

The first to be received for baptism were: L. Llewellyn, Jas. Powell, Sr., Isaac Williams, Rachel Williams, Annie Waters, Maggie Fowler, Clara Williams, Lizzie Waters and Anne Davis.

The first church building was dedicated Dec. 31, 1871. Those on the building committee were: T. D. Griffith, Wm. Waters, Jas. Kelly, John Beadle, Sanford Morgan, and Daniel Griffith.

Rev. A. H. Sembower, having faithfully and lovingly planted and nurtured the Branch for two years, severed his stewardship. He was succeeded by the following pastors: Rev. D. T. Davies, Rev. Wm. Warlow, Rev. J. W. Plannett, Rev. Amos Myers, Rev. D. J. R. Strayor, Rev. W. O. Owens, Rev. C. H. Fitzwilliam, Rev. C. W. Smith, Rev. T. A. T. Hanna, Rev. W. M. Jennings, Rev. N. C. Fetter, Rev. E. B. Hughes, and Rev. T. D. Morris.

The church clerks—Daniel Griffith, D. L. Griffith, D. W. Lewis, C. D. Johnson, T. G. Jones, F. J. Simmons, W. B. Lewis, T. T. Williams, and George Boote.

The inception of the new church was when Brother Wm. Waters, recognizing the needs of a larger place of worship, equipped with modern facilities for future growth, bequeathed $500 for that purpose.

Later, Sister Ann Griffith generously donated a plot of ground and a block of houses adjoining the church property, which is now used as a residence for the janitor, for perpetual care of the church.

This Welsh Church is now used as a social hall and was willed to the present Baptist Church. The social hall is located on North Front St. below the present Baptist Church. The present property is valued at $50,000 with all modern equipments. The Church is growing in value and also in membership, at the present time there is a membership of 180 and a Sunday School of 250. Music is a special feature of this church, with a senior and junior choir, both of which were led by Miss Dora Griffith, who is now the wife of the present pastor. The present senior choir is led by the organist, Prof. C. R. Birch.

The present junior choir is led by Misses Agnes Jones and Lucy Morris. There are also numerous, efficient organizations to meet all ages and classes.

The present pastor of the Baptist Church, Rev. T. D. Morris, is a graduate of the South Wales Baptist College and the Crosier Theological Seminary, Chester, Pa. He is the son of a very prominent Welsh Baptist Minister, Dr. William Morris, Treorchy, South Wales, who was honored with the degree of Doctor of Divinity by Bucknell University in 1902.

Rev. T. D. Morris has been pastor of the present Baptist Church for 21 years. He became pastor on December 15, 1912, and is now considered one of the best Baptist pastors in the East.

St. John's Ukranian Greek

In 1904, Galicians and Hungarians attended St. Michael's Church, located on Nicholas St. Father Paekosh, a Hungarian priest, served at that time. Due to some religious misunderstandings the Galicians broke away and held their services in the Front St. School Building.

In 1905 the Reading Company gave them the ground for a church which is now St. Nicholas Ukranian Church on Morris St. In 1921 another faction was created between two different parties of the St. Nicholas Church. Father Strotsky was the priest at the time and he and his followers built their own church, on North Mill St., which is the present St. John's Church. Plans for the church were started in 1921 and work on the building commenced in 1922. This building and ground cost about $80,000.

The church was dedicated on May 30, 1923. The present membership is about sixty families.

The pastors in their order were: Rev. Strotsky, 1922-1927; Rev. Bernotsky, 1927-1928; Rev. Milanich, 1928—.

Residents in 1875

The residents of St. Clair in 1875 had their homesteads located as noted in the following paragraphs. The spelling of the names in many cases, has been changed: Arnouts Addition—S. G. Arnout, S. Sitzinger, A. Henningan, J. Lewis, Birchal, H. Cooper, J. Fowler.

Third Street-Second Street—between Franklin and Hancock: W. F. Prosser, T. F. Reese, J. Short, W. Childs, J. Leavy, J. P. Bowen, C. Jones, K. Myer, W. F. Wilcox, J. Baker, Mrs. Jenkins, D. J. Price, J. Gainey; Long Row, A. P. Carr, B. Evans, Gibbins, Morris, E. M. Heald.

Between Hancock and Carroll: Mrs. R. Price, A. McGough, Mrs. Fox, A. Erwin, T. McGough, W. I. Potts, D. Walker, Mrs. A. Millington, T. Kerns, D. Schoener, R. H. Irwin, Dr. R. H. Corryell, C. Short, Mr. M. Reilly, Mrs. Hussey, C. Beaumont, C. A. Bretz.

Between Carroll and Lawton: J. Lanigan, F. W. Richardson, H. Krebs, D. Scoly, J. Denning, Mrs. Rarring, C. Morriss, G. Holbauer, Dr. J. Dunlop, D. Morgan, P. Carey, J. Rolls and J. Rhoads.

Lawton and Railroad: J. Lanigan, D. Glen, J. Snik, Mrs. Hughes, Mrs. Hawn, Mrs. Howard, J. McAllaney, J. Sullivan, J. Geiger, J. York, W. Pierson, J. Devlin.

Patterson: M. Reilly, W. Millington, J. Barnes, T. Dormady, J. Carroll.

Russell: B. Tillman, J. Gannon, B. Price, J. Reagan.

Second Street-Front Street—above Franklin: C. Eagan, Mrs. Oneil, Mrs. Dolan, P. Collghan, Mrs. Davis.

Franklin and Hancock: R. Boone, Mrs. A. Brown, Mrs. Llerick, J. Dawson, W. J. Barrwell, M. Brehany, M. Hiller, Mrs. J. Short, N. Quinn, Mrs. S. Rafferty, R. Price, Berry.

Hancock and Carroll: T. Johnson, Mrs. J. Jenkins, J. Farne, A. Kull, W. T. Richards, Mrs. M. M. Gwinner, W. Parker, J. Townsend, P. Hall, T. Piling, G. Rogers, W. J. McCarthy, H. B. Davis, R. C. Boyer.

Carroll and Lawton: J. Taggart, Holmes, G. B. Gwinner, C. Reading, H. Neiman.

Lawton and Railroad: J. Harris, J. Williams, Ray, J. Betz, J. Thorne, H. Donkin, D. W. Lewis, J. Weldman, J. R. Wilbur.

Railroad and Patterson: P. Fittz, Mrs. Shear, J. P. Vanhorn, Gill, P Dormer, Mrs. Stocks, A. J. Featherly.

Patterson and Russell: J. W. Wood, Mrs. Stone, A. Omerad, S. H. Daddow, T. Beddel.

Russell and Thwing: D. R. Thomas A. Jackson, J. Close, R. Price, J. Dolan, Geo. Stone, J. Martin, J. Price.

Below Thwing: J. Smith, D. Leahy, H. McGuire, T. Tolman, M. Ford, J. Kinney, P. Gorman.

Front Street-Mill Street, above Franklin; Nash Hotel, P. Schramm, G. Stahl, H. Harris, Mrs. Jones, J. Childs, Mrs. E. Henderson, B. Thomas, C. Evans, H. Johns, Mulroy.

Franklin-Hancock: M. Davis, P. Schmeltzer, D. Griffiths, C. Shepperd, H. Shepperd, H. Frant, Mrs. M. M. Gwinner, P. Davis, O. Jenkins.

Carroll-Lawton: Davis, N. Krebs, J. Wade, Quirin, Mrs. B. Nash, F. Carl, Mrs. Midgley, B. Eagan, Mrs. Hable, J. Wylam, M. Hislor, M. Long.

Lawton-Railroad: Mrs. Lilley.

Railroad-Patterson: W. Walters, J. Blacker, W. Bailey.

Hancock-Carroll: W. P. Williams, J. P. Post, Mrs. Brown, Mrs. Parmley, Mrs. Turner, B. S. Jackson, T. T. Walters, B. Mooney, T. D. Griffiths.

Patterson-Russell: J. Ray, J. Allison, A. Sharp.

Below Russell: Mrs. Tempest, J McKabe, Mrs. Jeffers, J. Lamb, J. Locker, W. Brachman.

Mill-Nicholas, above Franklin: P. Post, H. Deck, W. Turner.

Franklin-Hancock: P. Lewis, J. Rudd, J. Jones, Berry.

Hancock-Carroll: M. McGonigle, V. Omerod-J. Cline, J. Nagle, L. S. Ruffin, B. Howell, T. G. Ruffin, E. Evans, W. Baldwin.

Carroll-Lawton: Mrs. Morgans, D. Kopkins, D. Parrey, J. Kirk, D. Hopkins, J. Ent, E. Plappert, J. Schuster.

Lawton-Railroad: J. Dudfield, W. Smith, W. Marsh, Mrs. Jones, Groven, R. Brown, J. Morrison, J. Foster, E. J. Nichols, Mrs. M. M. Gwinner.

Railroad-Patterson: W. Smith, J. Williams, Mrs. Evans, J. Ford.

Patterson-Russell: E. Copewell, T. Williams, M. M. Stocker, J. Lill, A. Orme, T. Else, J. B. Wood, W. Mason.

Below Russell: J. Williams, G. Radford, W. Stephenson, J. Taylor, D. Jones, J. Morris, Philipps, Mrs. Baley, T. Morgan, T. Williams, Mrs. Stephenson.

Nicholas-Morris, Hancock-Carroll: W. House, J. Wilson, M. Brown, Hnecht, B. Sykes, H. Wostr, M. Brown, J. Hemian, Marsh, J. Wise, F. Schelly, J. Mack, W. Gittens, Mrs. Stones.

Carroll-Lawton: D. Evans, Cashman, H. Omler, I. Williams, P. Quirin, D. Vipond, M. Hilbert, D. H Geiger, Mrs. J. Kuhn, L. H. Koch, G. Jones.

Lawton-Railroad: Mrs. Haines, D. Louderbaugh, T. Davis, Fiddler, D. Jones, P. Attwood, McGrath, R Pope, T. Fielding.

Railroad-Patterson: Mrs. L. Deihl, W. Clifford, I. Morgan, N. Metzinger, Mrs. Attwood, T. H. Lewis, W Wiehner, Jones.

Patterson-Russell: W. Lin, J. C. Evans, J. J. Evans, J. Hubt.

Below Russell: W. B. Jenkins, T. B. Lewis, J. Morgans, W. Nailor.

Morris to Price, above Hancock: B. Moore, Mrs. Reese.

Hancock-Carroll: Mrs. Little, John Caseman, Mrs. Morgan, Mrs. Parker, H. Roenig, J. John, Dupee, J. Ruffin, Reese.

Carroll-Lawton: C. E. Gorman, J. Closer, Cuppleman, J. Wench, P. Quirin, W. S. Roeen, J. Rocher.

Lawton: D. Jones, E. Watkins.

East of Price: F. Bailey, W. Williams, W. Meinhold, M. P. Carey, John McCullough, Patrick McCullough, Cass McCullough, Bill Dougherty, Patrick Toner, Bradleys, Edward McKenna, James McGonegal, Michael McCullough, Bigleys and John Driscoll.

An Early Family

A family which has been identified with St. Clair history for many years is the O'Donnell family. The O'Donnell meat market was established over 45 years ago by the late John T. O'Donnell who as a young man learned all the details of the meat business. He was a son of James O'Donnell and his wife, Catherine Quinn, both natives of Ireland who located in St. Clair 73 years ago.

O'Donnell, Sr., was a miner by occupation. For years, he conducted a tavern at East Mines just north of the Pottsville Shafts. Twice, he was elected Jury Commissioner of the county on the Democratic ticket. The butcher business was located at 15 N. Second St., and it prospered from the very beginning. A sister, Miss Sara, managed the shop while the brother, John F., looked after the outside trade. The volume of business increased year by year until it became one of the leading establishments of its kind in the county.

The founder of the business, John F., died about 32 years ago. His sister, Sara, succeeded him as head of the store and together with her brother, Edw. A., successfully managed its affairs until her death on Oct. 24, 1930, when he became the sole owner. He retired from business three years ago and Joe Kurillo succeeded him. The business is conducted at 5 N. Second St., formerly occupied by Druggist Davis, the property having been purchased by the O'Donnell's several years previously.

Palo Alto Once Busy Industrial Center

(From "Pottsville Republican"-"Morning Paper," May 30-31, 1934)

The following gave valuable information in regard to early events: Mrs. Jane Horner, Mrs. Annie Barron, Mrs. Morris Runkle, Mrs. Lottie Daniels, Michael Foley, John Becker, Philip Whearty, Joel McDonald, Fred O'Connor, William Walsh, John McCord, Frank Pfeiffer, George Danna, and E. L. Clifford.

In the fall and winter of 1844-45, John G. Hewes laid out the village now known as Palo Alto. The land was formerly the property of Benjamin Richards and Wm. H. Warder, of Philadelphia. It extends along the base of the Sharp Mountain on the south side, and the Schuylkill River, on the north, for a distance of about two miles.

During the Mexican War, one of the important victories was won by General Zachary Taylor over the Mexican General, Santa Anna, at Palo Alto in the disputed territory between the Neueces and Rio Grande Rivers. Hence it seemed only fitting that the new town should be named Palo Alto. The name means Tall Mountains, and as the Sharp Mountain rose behind the town, the name was doubly appropriate.

In 1854 the borough was incorporated and Walter S. Chilson was elected first Chief Burgess; and Wm. M. Stellwagon, the first secretary.

At the time of the incorporation, an extensive rolling mill was established by William Harris, near the present site of the Pennsylvania P and L. Co. Power House. Later, in 1863, Benjamin Haywood, who had become the owner, built another and the two were combined and known as the Palo Alto Rolling Mills. He operated them until his death in 1879, with no other purpose than the benevolent one of giving employment to men.

Palo Alto grew rapidly and soon became a busy industrial town. The impetus which contributed to its rapid growth was the fact that at the time of its founding it was the northern terminus of the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad and the Schuylkill Navigation Canal.

The story of this canal forms probably the most glamorous chapter in the town's history. The canal was sponsored by the Schuylkill Navigation Company and cost approximately $13,000,000. It was 108 miles long and its average depth was 6 ¼ feet. It began at the present site of the railroad cut leading to Port Carbon. The first lock was known as the Siegfried Lock and it backed the water directly up to the landing where the boats were loaded. Two boats were loaded at one time, there being a railroad on each side of the canal. A canal boat was 100 feet long, 8 feet wide, and 8 feet deep. Loaded to a depth of 5 1-2 feet they carried an average of 190 tons. The main crew consisted of the Captain, a bowsman and a driver. The bowsman had to take turns at driving also. Many of the captains carried their families on the boats. The coal was carried to Philadelphia and through the Raritan Canal to New

York City and parts of New Jersey. Some boats reached as far north as Albany and as far south as Washington, D. C.

The time consumed in going to Philadelphia was four days. The first day's run was to Leesport, where a rest of six hours was taken; the second day's run was to Unionville, just below Douglasville; the third day took them to Browers, and the early afternoon of the fourth day brought them to Philadelphia. The return trip was made in about three days with an empty barge. The number of locks between Port Carbon and Philadelphia was about sixty. The boats were pulled by three mules, and the drivers became greatly attached to them. A large chest on the boat held the grain for the mules. Old residents still chuckle as they tell how the drivers frequently fell asleep, and tumbled into the canal, where they were rudely awakened by the cold water.

Among the prominent boat owners were Andrew Burns, Patrick Duggan, John O'Connor, Matthew Whalen, Frank Marlarkey, Dick Quinn and William Flannery. It was not an unusual sight to see one hundred boats pass up and down the Canal in one day. Gradually the Canal filled with mud and although a mud scow was employed it became impossible to keep the canal bed clean and the yards were moved to Mount Carbon.

Records point to the present Walker Apartment House as having been the first house in Palo Alto. It was a public tavern known as the Palo Alto House, and was an overnight stopping place for stage coaches, following the stage coach trail which is now known as Bacon St.

In 1870 a post office was established at the general store of William Bensinger, with Mr. Bensinger as postmaster. The office was discontinued in 1873, and the Pottsville free delivery extended to include the borough. This has continued to the present time.

Next to boating, the leading industry of the town for many years was railroading. The round house, repair shops, and storage yards of the Philadelphia and Reading Company were located here and gave employment to a large number of men. In the early days of the town, William M. Stellwagon was the efficient superintendent.

On the site of the Sharp Mountain was a spring of exceptionally fine water, known as the High Spring, and later the Holy Spring. The men at the shops hired an old gentleman by the name of John Fitzgibbons to carry drinking water for them. He carried a crossbar over his shoulders with two buckets suspended from the ends, and he was kept busy going to and from the spring. This spring is still flowing and many of the grandchildren of those men still quench their thirst with its sparkling water.

As years went on and the coal industry became larger, the railroad became cramped for space. The main trouble was the lack of adequate yard facilities. In 1912 the round house and storage yards were moved to Saint Clair. It was a sad day for the town of Palo Alto, because it meant that for the second time in its history a leading industry was transferred to another place.

Public Schools

The history of the Public School System forms an interesting chapter in the growth and development of Palo Alto. Previous to the incorporation of the borough a township school house was erected in the extreme eastern part of the town. Soon after the incorporation another school house was built in the western part, at the corner of Howard and Savory Streets. The division

line was Fox Street; those living below it attended the lower school, and those living above it attended the upper. Each school had a lady teacher and a male teacher. When the children finished the second reader they were promoted to the male teacher. The principal text book was Sander's Reader. Among the first teachers were Mr. P. D. Barnett, Mr. Condy Carr, Miss Ellen Connelly, Miss Henrietta Lime and Miss Mary McQuail. Other teachers in the early days of the school were Miss Annie Grimes, Miss Mary Welch, John Bergen and John Breslin.

Mr. Barnett had taught a private school at his home and had pupils from various parts of the county prior to the establishing of the pub lic schools. He also held the office of Justice of the Peace.

During the winter months when the Canal was frozen over, the boat boys attended the schools and from all accounts they were a rather boisterous lot. After the out of door life they had been leading, the comparative inaction of the school room sometimes became almost unbearable, with the result that they mutinied against it. Then the hickory rod came into play and it usually calmed the storm.

In 1878 a new school building was erected near the center of the town on the corner of Fox and Savory Sts. Joel McDonald, who is still living in Palo Alto, was the architect who designed the building. He personally supervised its construction, and the fact that it is still in use bears testimony to the stability of his work. Bernard O'Hare was the first principal in the new building. Substantial improvements were now made in the general educational arrangements. Among the later principals were Mr. Keisling, Mart Lawlor, Chas. Carrol, affectionately known to his pupils as "Pappy," and Wm. McGann.

Another teacher who later became prominent in county and state educational circles was Livingston Seltzer. For fourteen years he served as principal of the town schools and left only to become County Superintendent, a position which he ably filled for a quarter of a century. When, in his official capacity as superintendent, he visited the scene of his earlier teaching days, he delighted in meeting the sons and daughters of his former pupils. He always regarded Palo Alto as his home, and although he moved from it in his later days, his thoughts were continually drifting back.

During the past ten years the school building has been greatly improved. Indoor toilets have been installed; drinking fountains provided; new floors laid; and the seats have all been refinished. In the summer of 1931 the building was painted, both inside and out. The walls have been done in buff, the ceiling cream, and the woodwork mahogany. Former students, who have visited the school, have marveled at the change and improvement.

The present Board of Education is Dennis C. Slattery, President; Joseph J. Roperto, Vice-President; Harry M. Cook, Secretary; Joseph McGarry and William Londergan.

At the beginning of the 1932-33 school year it was found that the grades were so overcrowded that something had to be done to relieve the congestion. A new program was adopted under which the school day began at 8:30 A. M. and ended at 4:30 P. M. The first six grades were put on a part time basis. The second, fourth and sixth grades convened at 8:30 and were dismissed at 12:30; the session of the first, third and fifth grades ran from 12:30 to 4:30. The seventh and eighth grades were kept on full time and were

given a full day of six and one-half hours. The teachers took lunch periods running from 10:30 to 1:30. Not more than two teachers are at lunch at any one time. The plan met with the approval of the County Superintendent and the State Department of Public Instruction, and was put into operation. At first there were some objections to the plan on account of the shorter hours given to the elementary grades, but when it was shown that the children now received the undivided attention of the teacher whereas previously her attention had been divided between two grades, the objections were withdrawn. The plan has functioned splendidly and the various grades now change without the slightest confusion. There are at present 330 pupils enrolled. After finishing eighth grade the pupils recommended for high school admission by the principal are given a test by the County Superintendent. If they successfully pass this test. they are issued a certificate of admission to high school. A large number of pupils are now enrolled in the Pottsville and the Port Carbon High Schools, where they are following the courses they have selected.

Two Fire Companies

Palo Alto boasts of two fire companies, one in each ward. The East End Fire Co. was reorganized in 1922 and on Jan. 16, 1924 they bought their new truck. Previous to that time they had used a hose carriage pulled by the men. In August 1927, their new hose house was started and it was completed in December of the same year. The West Ward, or Citizen's Fire Co., was organized in 1894. Their first piece of apparatus was a four-wheeled carriage, purchased by the Borough Council from the Phoenix Fire Company, of Pottsville. Later Mr. W. W. Wunder, of Reading, built a chemical wagon and hose truck for the Company. This was drawn by horses. Next John Yaissle, of Pottsville, built a combination hose and chemical motor truck which served until 1932, when a new $5,300 Seagraves pumper, chemical and hose truck was purchased. In 1924 a new fire house was built at a cost of $13,000.

On Saturday night, Jan. 6, 1917, fire broke out at the Power House and Car Barn. This fire proved to be the most spectacular in the history of the town and outside companies were called in to aid the borough companies. The following day, Sunday, thousands of people flocked from all parts of the county to see the ruins, which were still blazing. For a week there were no lights, and trolley cars were unable to run.

For many years the car barns and repair shops of the East Penn. Traction Co. were located in Palo Alto. The Schuylkill Electric Railway Company was granted the right to run its trolleys sometime during 1889 or 1890. Today the Traction Company buses and offices are housed in the town.

In 1932 the Haddock Coal Co. built a modern steel breaker within the borough limits, called the Salem Hill Breaker. The name is derived from the hill, located north of the Pottsville-Port Carbon state road, Route 209, in which most of the coal is mined. Approximately two hundred men are employed.

World War

When the United States entered the World War, Palo Alto was proud and anxious to do its part. The Liberty Loan drives met with a ready response and nearly one hundred young men marched away to take up arms for their country. A kind Providence watched over them and only three appeared on

the casualty list: Clay W. Donne, a Sergeant in Co. H, 112 Infantry, and Guy Mortimer were killed in action. John J. Connors, a Private in Co. E, 61st Regiment, lay wounded in a shell hole between American and enemy lines for two days. He finally crawled to safety and was carried to a hospital.

Religion

Religiously, the majority of inhabitants are affiliated with churches either in Pottsville or Port Carbon. There is only one edifice in the town used for Divine Worship, a small Methodist Episcopal Chapel located on Union Street.

Built New Streets

In the spring of 1933 the condition of Bacon Street became so deplorable that driving over it became a positive risk. Consequently the town council took steps to have it paved, and a fine, modern tarvia road was laid. Plans are now being formulated for the repair and paving of other streets.

Palo Alto of today has a population of about eighteen hundred, the majority of whom are employed in industries outside the town. Many men still follow railroading, others work at the mines and shops in surrounding communities, and quite a number of girls and men find employment in nearby factories and stores.

From this brief history it may be seen that Palo Alto has had a varied career, and that it has on several occasions been severely handicapped by losing its major industries. Nevertheless, the people have stoically accepted these reverses, and have cheerfully set their hands and minds to other tasks.

Knights of Golden Eagle Once Very Active

(From "Pottsville Republican"-"Morning Paper," June 1, 1934)

Though Pottsville boasted the honor of having been the parent organization of the Knights of the Golden Eagle, in Schuylkill County, and also entertained the Grand Castle of the order, at their 33rd annual session during the spring of 1909, Mountain Castle No. 48, the first organization, is now out of existence here. It weathered the life of several other Castles but failing interest and the death of many members and other attaining to such advanced years that they could no longer attend its sessions, caused it to pass into history. The birth of the order in this county, was more than 49 years ago.

The last meeting of Mountain Castle No. 48, Knights of the Golden Eagle, the "father" of the order in this section of the state, was held during the first week of June in 1931. Its membership, at that time, from a maximum of more than 200, had dwindled to but seven. Of these the following were officeholders:—Noble Chief, John Whitmeyer; Vice Noble Chief, Jos. W. Hartzell; Keeper of the Exchequer, A. D. Schum; Master-of-Records, Fred C. Eberle; Trustee, Jos. Herzog. Mr. Hartzell's death occurred last year.

Notwithstanding the fact that the affairs of Mountain Castle were wound up, during comparatively recent date, within the last score of years two other Castles preceded it in going out of existence. These were Castle No. 195 of St. Clair, which during the period of its prosperity was represented by T. H. Montgomery as a District Grand Chief; and Castle No. 125, of Pottsville. Both of these organizations did not absolutely cease functioning for each of them was merged by Mountain Castle, of this city.

Among the outstanding veterans in Schuylkill County of the Knights of Golden Eagle was A. D. Schum of Pottsville whose death occurred last March. He passed his 85th year in January and was the oldest official of the order in Pennsylvania.

Mr. Schum in his later days talked reminiscently of the order during the period that he was affiliated with it in the days of his young manhood. His stories of the growth of the Golden Eagles in Schuylkill County were exceedingly interesting. He served for more than three decades, as Deputy Grand Chief of District No. 46, which embraced Auburn, Minersville and Pottsville. The latter with a half dozen other towns, which did not survive as long as Mountain Castle, none of them finishing out a period of a half century, planned golden anniversaries but their members were unable to hold the Castles together long enough to realize that happy epoch in their history.

The difficulty in most cases was over the payment of dues. When the membership started to fall off and indifference was shown as to payment of dues, which are the bone and sinews of any lodge, the officers and a few loyal members kept the Castles together until the receipts of even the lighter part of the "overhead" could no longer be paid. It was not long after that until it was necessary to surrender their charters.

While A. D. Schum had the longest tenure of any District Deputy Grand Chief in this part of Pennsylvania, he did not serve in that capacity until the historical page of Mountain Castle was closed having been succeeded after he assumed the responsibilites of Keeper of the

Exchequer, in charge of the district, by Albert Kellar, who represented Castle No. 151 of Minersville. The latter served when it was decided by the few last officials of Mountain Castle to disband.

Pottsville's veteran District Deputy Grand Chief, often made his trips, visiting the various Castles in his district on horseback, and also by horse-and-carriage in what was then termed "riggins". Most of his visitations were made before automobiles came into general use. During the closing days of his being head of the district, the modern mode of travel made it easier to get about.

Mr. Schum, for most of his long life, followed the vocation of a carpenter. He was a builder and contractor and continued his labors for many more years that are allotted to the average man. His fraternal order experiences were varied, most of them pleasant, giving him much enjoyment in recounting outstanding reminiscenes. However, there were some that were by no means a bed of roses. These were associated with the organization of new Castles and bolstering up others to keep them going until they were able to help themselves. He was instrumental in placing quite a few Castles on their feet, when they showed signs of shakiness and it seemed likely that they would go out of existence.

Other Castles, which did not share the fate of Pottsville, were those at Pinegrove and Auburn, both of them being regarded as well-to-do when those, in this vicinity, suspended. These were identified with another jurisdiction than District No. 46.

It was on April 4, 1885, that Mountain Castle No 48 Knights of the Golden Eagle. the primitive branch of the order, in Schuylkill County, was instituted. While its charter was open there were constant acquisitions so that by Dec. 31st, of the same year, there were enrolled just 132 members.

The charter or original officers were: S. P. C., W. B. Townsend; N. C., William H. Bearstler; V. C., R. J. Mills; H. P., W. F. Ehlers; V. H., D. L. Jenkins; M. of R., F. L. Lamont; C. of E., E. F. Welker; K. of E., J. N. Sterner; S. H., George F. Helms, former Pottsville newspaper man; W. B., John S. Bell; Cham., James Sloan; Ensign, T. H. Adcock; Esq., E. L. Sailor; First Guardian, R. B. Ehlers; Second Guardian, J. W. Hartzell.

Being the first Castle in this section of the state, its degree team conducted the initiation and conferred the degrees upon the members of all the Castles, in Schuylkill Co., including those at Mahanoy City, Shenandoah, Ashland, Pinegrove, Tremont, Tamaqua and also those at Audenreid and Hazleton, in Luzerne County. Through the activities of that crack team, several thousand members of these Castles, became affiliated with the order.

Mountain Castle was represented as sessions of the Grand Castle, by the following officials: W. B. Townsend from 1886 to 1889 and also in 1900; J. W. Conrad, in 1890; W. F. Ehlers from 1891 to 1892; W. H. Bearstler from 1892 to 1899; Sidney Shaw from 1903 to 1906; and A. D. Schum from 1907 to 1909.

The first Schuylkill County Commandery was instituted on Nov. 9, 1887. Then there were subordinate Castles at Tamaqua, Shenandoah, Ashland, Mahanoy City, Tremont, Pinegrove, Tower City, Girardville, Minersville, Auburn, St. Clair and Delano. The District Grand Chiefs, with jurisdiction in Schuylkill Co. were: T. H. Montgomery, of St. Clair; Robert Harris, of Tamaqua; A. D. Gable, of Shenandoah; Galen B. Wetzel, of Ashland, and Edward B. Spangler of Pine Grove.

As late as May 12, 1891 in the Schuylkill County jurisdiction, the following Castles flourished: Pottsville, No. 48; Tamaqua, No. 68; Shenandoah, No. 74; Ashland, No. 85; Mahanoy City, No. 86; Tremont, No. 107; Pine Grove, No. 124; Pottsville, No. 125; Tower City, No. 135; Girardville, No. 136; Minersville, No. 151; Auburn, No. 168; St. Clair, No. 195; Delano, No. 323.

Only a few years after the first Temple Degree Ladies of the Golden Eagle was established in Philadelphia, which was on Oct. 14, 1892. followed by establishing a Grand Temple at Easton, on May 8, 1894, Pottsville instituted Laurel Temple, No. 166. Its charter membership was 51 and a neat sum was soon accumulated in the treasury.

The prosperity of the Knights of the Golden Eagle was at its height a quarter of a century ago, when the Pennsylvania Grand Castle of the Knights of the Golden Eagle held their 33rd annual session at Pottsville.

These committees, appointed on May 10, 1909, were in charge of the arrangements for the convention and performed their service in a highly efficient and most creditable manner: General Committee—J. W. Conrad, Chairman; C. P. Hoffman, Vice Chairman; A. L. Wildermuth, Secretary; E. F. Schlaseman, Treasurer. Finance—J. M. Shellhammer, C. H. Kline, E. J. Wildermuth, H. C. Schertle, C. S.; E. E. Nagle, S. S.

Decorations—F. W. Bausum, C. S.; George F. Moyer, C. S.; George W. Ehlers, F. B. Bearstler, B. N. Spehrley. Badges and Advertising—Edgar W. Bearstler, C. S.; A. J. Benson, S. C.; A. L. Madison, C. W. Hughes, T. E. Hummel, Geo. Leonard. Printing—A. L. Wildermuth, Jos. Herzog, C. W. Hughes, Jas. W. Beck, C. S.; Fred Hoefel, C. S.

Publicity—Geo. B. Stichter, C. S.; W. H. Ent, C. S.; J. I. Saul, Fred Eberle, J. G. Lowrey. Music—E. F. Schlaseman, F. E. Barnes, Geo. B. Sinton, E. J. Miller, C. S.; Frederic Gerhard, C. S. Parade—A. D. Schum, W. I. Starr, Wm. Kriner, Captain John H. Fertig, C. S.; Geo. J. Smith, C. S. Halls—Wm. J. Leifield, W. I. Otto, Geo. Weber, A. L. Eckert, C. S.; J. Sullivan, C. S. Prizes—C. P. Hoffman, C. S.; H. R. Foster, C. S.; W. H. Bearstler, G. C. Schrink, W. B. Fegley. Hotels—Geo. W. Jungkurth, C. S.; John N. Stout, C. S.; Jonathan Whitmeyer, Charles Shankweiler, John Engelhart.

The roster of officers, who were serving when the Grand Castle met in Pottsville, follows: S. P. C., W. J. Leifield; N. C., John Whitmeyer; V. C., John Engelhart; H. P., C. W. Hughes; V. H., George Weber; M. of R. and C. of E., A. L. Wildermuth; K. of E., A. D. Schum; S. H., George Leonard; W. B., W. E. Starr; Chamberlain, E. J. Wildermuth; Ensign, F. B. Bearstler; Esquire, B. N. Spehrley; First Guardsman, C. H. Kline; Second Guardsman, Wm. Kriner; Trustees, Jos. Herzog, C. H. Kline, E. J. Wildermuth; A. D. Schum, Representatives to Grand Castle.

These officers served Laurel Temple No. 166, of Pottsville, a quarter of a century ago: Past Templar, Augusta Fegley; Templar, Hedwig Leifield; Vice Templar, Mame Campbell; Priestess, Hedwig Leifield; Guardian of Records, Elizabeth Merrick; Guardian of Exchequer, Ethel Starr; Guardian of Finance, Alice Kline; Guardian of Music, Hazel Kline; Marshall of Ceremonies, Esther Smith; Guardian of Inner Portal, Sophia Wagner; Guardian of Outer Portal, B. N. Spehrley; Trustees: W. J. Leifield, Chas. Huppert, C. E. Laubach; Augusta Fegley, representative to Grand Temple.

Three P. O. S. of A. Camps in Pottsville

(From "Pottsvie Republican"-"Morning Paper," June 2-4, 1934)

Pottsville has had three Camps of the Patriotic Order Sons of America, Nos. 14, 36 and 500. The latter went out of existence nearly 40 years ago. The first two have retained their identity to the present time, both being in a flourishing condition and vieing favorably in financial condition and membership with many other patriotic organizations in Schuylkill County. All Camps of this great Order carry the preface title of George Washington, "Father of his country" and the patriotic organization's patron saint. Camp No. 14, the older one, on July 7th, next, will have been in existence for four-score years. It was founded on July 7, 1854. When the Civil War broke out, in 1861, the Camp had a total of 72 members. Upon the first call of President Abraham Lincoln for volunteer troops to put down the Rebellion of the South, all the members entered the internecine strife which made it necessary to suspend functioning on Feb. 24, 1862. After the close of the war, in 1866, the Camp was reorganized. This was just in time to be represented at the initial sessions of the meeting of the Pennsylvania State Camp which sprang into existence during 1867. Through a succession of vicissitudes of fortune, Camp No. 14 again was forced to suspend after some financial failure by which the organization lost all its funds. In 1882 it was able to reorganize. The committee, which instituted it comprised: S. M. Helms, of Camp No. 49; E. W. Thomas, of Camp No. 72 and J. A. Seitzinger of Camp No. 57. At that time former Judge R. H. Koch, H. J. Koch, H. S. Kirk and the Rev. A. R. Bartholomew were charter members. All but the latter, who is deceased, are still able to attend the meetings and take some part in the activities of the Camp. They have passed four-score years of their lives, being members of the patriotic order for more than 52 years. Among the older members is Wm. A. Womer, who has been identified with the Camp for a little more than half a century having become a member on April 11, 1884.

He has been continually active in the work of the organization throughout all the years of his affiliation. The late Daniel M. Keller was president, and George W. Zeh, secretary, both executive officers at that time.

The membership of Camp No. 14, today, is just 221. The present officers are: Pres., Charles Kirkley; Vice Pres., Henry Faust; Master of Forms, Frank F. Gottschall; Recording Secy., Jos. E. Sterner; Financial Secy., Wm. F. Bertsch; Treasurer, C. A. Blew; Conductor, Edw. L. Eckroth; Inspector, H. W. Lavenberg; Guard, Alfred E. Davis, Chaplain, Geo. L. Lee; Trustees, Jas. E. Evans, H. W. Lavenberg and Jos. E. Sterner.

James Shaw, president of District No. 1 installed the following as officers and members of Camp No. 14, on July 7, 1854: Jacob Britton, Chas. H. Krebs, Lewis Kline, Geo. H. Brown, Daniel W. Bland, R. M. Huntzinger, Thos. E. Connor, Chas. Taylor, Wm. Cruikshank, Harry Bricker, Richard R. Riland, N. W. Major, Samuel Hoffman, John An-

thony, Morgan Reed, John Leisenring, Reuben Snyder, Daniel L. Krebs and James Lake.

In 1916 Camp No. 14 had an enrollment of 351 members and $11,000 in the treasury. Today the Camp is worth $26,000 which it has in its treasury and in addition owns the $38,000 building it had specially constructed on the west side of Centre St., north of Minersville St.

The P. O. S. of A. Hall which was erected less than a decade ago is of three stories. The building occupies the site of the Palmer property bought on March 5, 1921. It is built of brick, steel, concrete, glass and frame. On the first floor a business is conducted. A staircase runs to the south of the store room, up through the three stories. On the second floor is an apartment and the social quarters of the Camp, which include a pool table, and other equipment and furniture to make them cozy and comfortable. The entire top floor is devoted to the purposes of the Camp. The Camp assembly room, front, practically square, is large enough to seat 500 persons if the necessity ever arises. To the rear of the lodge room is a commodious kitchen provided with a gas range, cabinets, etc. There are also a number of lockers in which are stored valuable vestments, regalia and equipment required in the lodge work. Though Camp No. 14 erected the building its brother Camp No. 36 meets regularly in it. There are also meeting in the building:—The Junior Order United American Mechanics, True Blue Lodge Daughters of America, the P. O. of A., women's organization, Pottsville Ladies Social Club, Ladies Community Club and Anthracite Division No. 95 G. I. A., Auxiliary to the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers.

Washington Camp No. 36 Patriotic Order Sons of America, of Pottsville, is one of the most substantial in Schuylkill County. State President F. E. Stees, State Vice President L. K. Levan, Master of Forms L. A. Shollenberger, Past State President Jere G. Bast and the District President instituted it on Oct. 11, 1869.

The original officers, who served the Camp were: Past President, George J. Huntzinger; Pres., J. A. M. Passmore; Vice Pres., J. J. Cake; Master-of-Forms, John F. Gressang; Conductor, Charles E. Beck; Inspector, Albert Esterly; Guard, Robert Morrison; Chaplain, Robert B. Beath; Recording Secretary, C. D. H. Alter, father of Charles E. Alter of the Republican business staff; Financial Secretary, E. F. Bodey; Treas., P. D. Helms; Assistant Recording Secretary, Chas. J. Farne; Trustees, H. M. Kammerer, Geo. W. Wood and Robert B. Beath; Right Sentinel, Benj. Pott Whitney; Left Sentinel, Wm. Smith.

The charter members were: J. A. M. Passmore, Chas. W. Schuerr, Alex S. Silliman, John F. Gressang, Frank R. Leib, Geo. W. Good, A. P. Helms, Geo. J. Huntzinger, J. H. Carroll, H. M. Kammerer, Geo. H. Kline, Joel S. Stein, John H. Bolich, John T. Werner, Jas. K. Helms, Albert Esterly, Robert R. Beath, John M. Miller, J. J. Cake, Peter Helms, John Helms, Charles E. Beck, Jacob Helms, E. F. Bodey, Robert Morrison, Wm. Smith, Chas. J. Forney, W. Ramsey Potts, Joel Reed, Henry C. Shomo, Wm. H. Shollenberger, C. D. H. Alter, Benjamin Pott Whitney and Wm. Gressang, a total of 34.

The present roster of officers is: Past President, Oliver L. Jay; Pres., Walter S. Brower, Vice Pres., Samuel Mitchell; Master-of-Forms, Chas. M. Knoll; Conductor, Hamilton Ginther; Chaplain, Terry E. Hummel; Recording Secretary, Robert L. Hummel; Inspector, Clarence Sinton; Guard, Reuben J. Brenner; Financial Secretary, Prof. T. C.

Knowles; Treas., Aaron M. Sinton; and Trustees, Chas. M. Knoll, J. Wm. Fernsler and H. Ginther.

Camp No. 36 has always strenuously held up the seven cardinals of the Order, which are: To inculcate pure American principles; teach loyalty to American institutions; cultivate fraternal affection; oppose foreign interference in state or national affairs; oppose all appropriations of public money for sectarian purposes; preserve the Constitution of the United States, and defend and maintain the American system of public schools. These objects also cover caring for the sick, paying both sick and death benefits, and assisting those in distress.

A total of 1,133 members were initiated into the Camp during the period from 1869 to 1934. The present membership of the camp is now 209.

Outstanding accomplishments of the Camp, during this period of 65 years were: Assisting in instituting the following camps: Nos. 134, at Port Carbon, on June 19, 1872; 260, at Lavelle, on Aug. 6, 1880; 500, at Pottsville, during Feb., 1890; assisted in reinstating Camp No. 14 in G. A. R. Hall, on May 8, 1882, and aided in instituting Camp No. 525, at Tamaqua on Apr. 28, 1890.

On Oct. 11, 1894, Camp No. 36, celebrated its 25th or silver anniversary, in Centennial Hall, when all the state camp officers were in attendance.

In conjunction with the officers and members of Camp No. 14, it was the privilege of Camp No. 36 to entertain the annual sessions of the State Camp, at the old Academy of Music, which, in later years, was destroyed by fire during Aug, 1889 and Aug., 1911.

During the interval of years between the two sessions of the State Camp in Pottsville, the Order increased from 462 to 806 Camps, and the membership swelled from 37,137 to 97,000. In Schuylkill County, during the same period, the Order increased in membership from 5,220 to 8,110.

During 1889, Camps Nos. 36 and 14 presented United States flags to the Pottsville and Palo Alto public schools, and had them placed in the various buildings.

When the granite monument, erected, in Garfield Square, to the memory of the soldiers and sailors, of Schuylkill County, who responded to their country's call, was being financed, Camp No. 36 donated $50, and turned over the considerable proceeds of a benefit fair to the monument committee.

After the response of the local soldiery, for service in the Spanish-American War, on May 9, 1898, Camp No. 36, passed a resolution donating $50 per month to the families of members who enlisted, also deciding to carry all such members on the rolls, in good standing while they were in the service.

The first delegates to represent Camp No. 36, at the session of the State Camp, were Daniel D. Dillman and John F. Gressang, in 1870. Since that date, the camp has been represented at all State Encampments.

A. L. Eckert, a member of the first Pottsville City Council, was the initial member, from Camp No. 36, to gain Pennsylvania recognition having served as master-of-forms of the State Camp during 1896 and '97.

The only member of Camp No. 36, to attain to the honor of the State Camp presidency was Alfred D. Boyer, who was elected for the term of 1922-23.

Only once was Camp No. 36 recognized for a national honor. It

was in 1919 when Prof. Thomas C. Knowles was elected assistant national secretary, at the Encampment held at Jacksonville, Fla.

Camp No. 36 organized and conducted the Alpha Social Club, which prospered from 1881 to 1897. Several thousand dollars were realized from its activities, which were placed in the treasury of the local organization.

It was on Oct. 11, 1919, that Camp No. 36 observed its golden or half century anniversary, with a celebration and banquet which was held in the Armory. At this function, as he did on the previous 25th anniversary, Prof. Thos. C. Knowles acted as chairman.

In 1917, Camp No. 36 assisted at the dedication ceremonial of the Twelfth St. school building, then the high school. The Camp presented the school district with a large lectern for use on the platform of the auditorium.

The most notable function carried out by Camp No. 36, in recent years, was the signal honor due 14 members associated with the lodge for more than a half century. This was conducted on Tuesday night, May 29, 1934. It was confined strictly to members, the quarters of the camp, in the P. O. S. of A. Hall on N. Centre St., being filled to capacity.

Each veteran was presented with a gold emblematic pin, and a 50-year certificate. Those honored were: Frank Barnes, Samuel Mitchell, Frank Allison, Terrias Hummel, Thomas Lowthert, Allen S. Paul, Joseph Davis, James Lowthert, John Johnston, C. H. Britton and Fred A. Lennig, all of Pottsville; S. H. Zimmerman, of Sayre, Ala.; E. J. Womelsdorf, of Lakeland Park, Fla., and B. K. Conrad, of Phila.

Addresses were made by Hon. Gabriel H. Moyer, of Lebanon, Past National President; Past State President, A. D. Boyer, of Pottstown, and others. Prof. Thomas C. Knowles, the camp secretary, made the presentation to the 50-year members.

Forty-four years ago, Washington Camp No. 500, Patriotic Order, Sons of America, with great eclat, was instituted in Pottsville. It had a creditable, but brief, history, as lack of interest made it necessary to surrender its charter, having passed out of existence a little more than two decades ago.

Some of the members were added to the rolls of Camp No. 14, but most of them allied themselves with Camp No. 36.

It was on Jan. 31, 1890, that the Camp had its birth, following a parade during which Centre St. was ablaze with tableaux lights, and there were the enlivening strains of band music. After this demonstration, the ceremonial of institution was conducted.

Washington Orme, of St. Clair, district president, made the opening address. State President Bissix read the warrant. Then there was the installation ceremonial, the following officers participating: Past President, F. A. Lennig, organizer Grand Commandery Camp, No. 36; President, C. C. Matten, Camp No. 14; Vice President, E. G. Faust, of Tremont, Camp No. 266; Master-of-Forms, John Seitzinger, Camp 57; Chaplain, Joseph May, of the Douglasville Camp; Inside Guard, A. S. Templin, Camp No. 134; Conductor, J. S. Thomas, Camp No. 75; Right Sentinel, D. L. Wertley, Camp No. 76; Left Sentinel, O. R. Lord, Camp No. 36; Recording Secretary, T. G. Jones, Camp No. 475; Pianist,

Morris Yeager, of Palo Alto, Camp No. 36.

The first members of Camp No. 500 initiated were: J. H. Eckenrode, Alvin Snyder, Wm. Werntz, Chas. A. Kershner, Chas. Schloppich, Guy F. Reinhart, W. D. Schaeffer, R. G. Emanuel, Wm. Schell, H. H. Hill, Jacob Deppen, Wm. Potts, H. R. Foster, Saml. King, Lewis Long, Robt. Wren, Harvey Hooper, Geo. Schneider, Henry Mullen, Jos. Ruch, Albert Weist, Alfred Cheney, Henry Moyer, Edw. Arobgast, Geo. Gottschall, Robt. Trough, John Rowe, Geo. Keskley, Elias E. Reed, Wm. Gordon, Jas. G. Lowrey, J. Wilson, Zaccur P. Madara, Jos. Stoudt, Martin F. Schaeffer, Clarence Carter, Fred F. Wade, Prof. G. A. Transue, Daniel Shellhammer, Wm. Stein, Wm. Schum, Wm. H. Kerkeslager, George T. Moyer, John F. Fisher, Jas. Schauntz, Wm. Britton, Charles Goodman, Wm. Smith, John J. Kohler, D. A. James and Daniel Walker.

The initial officers elected by Camp No. 500 were: Past President, John Fisher; Pres., Edward Arbogast; Vice Pres., Jacob Deppen; Master of Forms and Ceremonies, Geo. Moyer; Recording Secretary, Harry G. Eckenrode; Financial Secretary, Robert Wren; Treasurer, Jos. Stodt; Inner Guard, Chas. Goodman; Outer Guard, Albert Weist; Trustees, H. H. Hill, Ed. Arbogast and H. Mullen.

Organized Central Republican Club in 1884

(From "Pottsville Republican"-"Morning Paper," June 5-6, 1934)

The Central Republican Club, of Pottsville, outstanding political organization of the anthracite region of Pennsylvania, at one time reputed to be the strongest in the state outside of Philadelphia and Pittsburgh, was instituted in the old Centennial Hall, on the east side of Centre Street, upon the site of Pottsville's original Town Hall, on June 26, 1884. There were 53 charter members. The original officers were. Richard H. Koch, President; Wm. S. Graham, First Vice Pres.; Hon. C. C. Matten, Second Vice Pres.; G. A. Berner, Recording Secy.; Jacob S. Ulmer, Financial Secy.; Daniel Schertle, Treas.; D. H. Seibert, F. M. Bertram, Sr. and Dr. Geo. H. Halberstadt, Trustees.

During the following August, these field officers were chosen: D. H. Seibert, Captain; W. H. Stichter, First Lieut.; Dr. G. H. Halberstadt, Second Lieut.; Wm. B. Shaw, Third Lieut.; C. C. Matten, Fourth Lieut.; E. G. Faust, Fifth Lieut.; Wm. H. Knowlton, Sixth Lieut.

Permanent headquarters were established in the Hoffman building, on the east side of Centre St., on July 22, 1884. The organization then went into their first home. When it moved out there were 250 members on the roll.

While occupying that location, standard equipment was adopted, viz: a white hat and cane. The officers carried lanterns with different colored globes designating their rank.

While in these original quarters, the Club established a program of exceptionally high class theatricals, which proved of financial benefit to the organization and gave the community splendid entertainment. Many political campaigns were planned there and numerous county slates made and broken.

The quarters were the place where the beautiful Taylor banner, of 1848, was presented to the Club by Burd S. Patterson, Esq. Some of the organization's notable banquets were held there.

Pottsville's first Board of Trade was organized in the Club's home and held a year's lease for meetings during which industrial planning was done for the benefit of the community.

In May 1886, the Club moved into the Huntzinger building where it was located during the greatest part of its existence. The first notable event, in the new quarters, was the presentation, by a committee of ladies, of a handsome silk flag which was highly esteemed and carried through many political campaigns.

Of a number of demonstrations, arranged in the history of the Club, only one was conducted outside of Schuylkill County. It was a trip of the organization to Harrisburg, during June 1886, to boom the candidacy of Samuel A. Losch, of Schuylkill Haven, for State Secretary of Internal Affairs. Though the object was not attained, the Club won great credit for its fine martial appearance and gentlemanly bearing.

The most notable of the home celebrations by the Club and one which its members have always looked on with pride, was the re-

ception tendered the Hon. James G. Blaine, Secretary of State and the great Republican Party's candidate for President of the United States, on Oct. 27, 1886. It was the enthusiasm aroused in that campaign which gave the Central Republican Club its prestige and brought in the representative enrollment that established such a foundation that the organization has been in existence for nearly half a century.

All the details and work of entertaining this noted figure in the nation's political history, devolved upon the Central Republican Club.

Ed. G. Faust headed the committee which went to Philadelphia and arranged for Mr. Blaine's coming to Pottsville. The noted statesman stopped at the Penn Hall Hotel, then in the heyday of its prosperity, and spoke at the old court house which occupied part of the site of the present more pretentious temple of justice.

The entire length of Centre St., from end to end, was ablaze with fireworks and stands of colors and emblems of "old glory," generally, when Mr. Blaine was escorted, in an open carriage, between deep lanes of people, from his hotel to the court house, the Central Republican Club constituting the guard of honor along the entire route. The Presidential candidate declared the demonstration as among the most memorable of his entire tour of Pennsylvania.

The next notable event, in which the Club participated, was the reception to Gov. Jas. A. Beaver, on the occasion of the Eisteddfod, conducted, here, on Sept. 26, 1887, at which he was the presiding officer. He was tendered a reception at the quarters of the Club. The address of welcome was delivered by Thos. A. Reilly, president of the Pottsville Borough Council, to which the Governor responded. President of the Club, R. H. Koch, and Attorney General Kirkpatrick also made addresses.

The Central Republican Club was among the first to join the National League of Republican Clubs and sent three delegates to the convention, which met in New York City, during December 1887. The Club also identified itself with the State League of Republican Clubs and sent delegates to the convention, at Lancaster, in April 1888. It was a short time later that the Club members were identified with the Home Market Club and were the mediums of the distribution of a large quantity of campaign literature.

It is a remarkable fact that the Club has always been a marching organization. Though, at times, the ranks thinned out a little, the organization, on that account, never shirked a parade, whether it was during rain or shine, good roads or bad roads. In fact, the first parade, in which the organization participated, was on a rainy night when it marched over the entire town and the emblematic red lanterns were carried. The Club received much praise for the turnout.

In the campaign of '84, the Club paraded a dozen times and marched bravely. Ed. Faust, one of the Club's greatest enthusiasts, in speaking of the outcome of the Blaine campaign, said: "Our political disappointment was aggravated by an invitation from our opponents for a joint parade and ox roast in honor of their victory. Of course, it was respectfully declined. Instead, the Club took part in a more honorable, though sad proceeding, that of taking down the large Blaine and Logan banner, amid the shouts and cheers of an enthusiastic and determined people."

At one time the Central Republican Club had a membership of 350. Its development was along purely

political principles and also social good fellowship. During recent years, the membership has dwindled to about 100 members. The loss was accountable for in a varied manner. Among the reasons were political dissensions, such as the bitterness engendered over the Quay-Hastings Republican Chairman contest of the State; some of the older members retiring voluntarily and a large membership being lost by death. In addition there was inactivity of the Club members, who made no effort to carry out an extension program, being, apparently, indifferent as to the future of the organization.

When the Central Republican Club was a marching organization, red tableaux lights were carried. Rain made the use of these impracticable. Then there was taken up the old, reliable torch, a lamp, hung on a broomstick, and it was carried over the right shoulder. Finally, there were procured fourteen large Kansas Flambeaux, with their great lights, their lycopodium, their leaky oil bowls and their mouthpiece by which blowing the oil forced it, in an attractive flame, several feet into the air, calling forth the surprise and praise of all who saw the novelty.

In the quarters of the club gas was first burned, then electric lights were substituted to be, in turn, replaced with the Welsbach gas burner. Heat was first furnished by a cannon stove. Then a more modern heater was bought for $45. It was sold for $12.50 less cartage. Finally steam heat was installed.

Mr. Faust, commenting on the modern type of campaigns, facetiously said:- "Since marching clubs have been abolished, from the political arena, there is no more use for the parader armed, cap-a-pie, to go forth in disguise and battle against the enemy but now it is rather making a still hunt among his constituency."

The Central Republican Club took an active part in the candidacy of two members, one for receiver of taxes, of Pottsville, and the other for coroner of Schuylkill County, being successful in electing each. Every active member backed their election. Since that time members of the club were elected to various borough and ward offices. The organization has been held together by the confidence and esteem the members have for each other and by their honesty of purpose and integrity exercised at all times, to their fellowman.

The first outstanding public function conducted under the auspices of the Central Republican Club was a banquet at the Pennsylvania Hall Hotel, on Friday night, April 12, 1889, the anniversary of the great statesman, Henry Clay, author of the "Missouri Compromise" Bill, in Congress. Clay had so many admirers in Pottsville that a number of public-spirited citizens erected as a testimonial, the monument, which stands on the brow of the hill, east of the terminus of S. Second St.

The committee of arrangements comprised:—R. H. Koch, Burd S. Patterson, D. H. Seibert, Joseph W. Jones and Frank Critz.

The toasts were:—"Henry Clay," by Hon. Henry Clay McCormick; "Clay's Doctrines, the Key to Unlock the Solid South," by Charles Emory Smith, Esq.; "Pennsylvania, the Bulwark of Protection," by Gov. James A. Beaver; "The Tariff, the Proper Keynote in the Doubtful Northern Districts," by Hon. W. H. Andrews; "The Republican Party and its Mission," Dr. W. C. Doane; "The Central Republican Club," Secretary G. A. Berner; "Our Young

Men and the Tariff," George D. McCreary, Esq., "The Clay Monument," Gen. Henry L. Cake; and "The Future of the Party," Hampton Carson, Esq.

The second annual anniversary banquet, in honor of Henry Clay's birthday was held on Friday evening, April 11, 1890, in Centennial Hall. The club's officers, at that time were:—Daniel Lewis, Pres.; General J. K. Sigfried, First Vice-Pres.; M. M. L'Velle, Esq., Second Vice-Pres.; G. A. Berner, Secty.; Harry C. Schertle, Treas. The personnel of the banquet committee was:—Burd S. Patterson, R. H. Koch, D. H. Seibert, Jacob B. Ulmer and John H. Zimmerman.

As mottos of the occasion there were adopted:—"The measure of the wealth of a nation is indicated by the measure of its protection of its industry—I would rather be right than be President—I place country far above all parties."

Responses were made to toasts:-"Henry Clay," by Hampton L. Carson, Esq.; "Pennsylvania, the Keystone of Clay's American System," Hon. Charles W. Stone; "The Administration and its Work," Hon. E. S. Osborne; "The Republican Press and its Mission," Colonel J. H. Lambert; "Watchwords for the Campaign," General D. H. Hastings; "The Young Republicans of Pennsylvania," Hon. W. H. Andrews; "How to Organize Victory," Hon. G. W. Delamater; "How to Break the Solid South," Dr. W. C. Doane; "Civil Service Reform, a Republican Measure," Hon. George E. Mapes; "Ballot Reform, a Republican Doctrine." Hon. John H. Landis; "The Future of the Party," Emerson Collins, Esq.

The twelfth annual banquet was held at the Hotel Tumbling Run, on Monday night, April 13, 1896, this date having been set because Clay's birthday fell on a Sunday. Special trolley cars carried the members of the club and their guests to and from Tumbling Run. The committee comprised:—G. C. Schrink, chairman; E. G. Faust, secretary; Henry Matten, treasurer; D. H. Seibert and G. W. Shoener, in charge of transportation.

Just prior to the outbreak of the Spanish-American War, the Central Republican Club held their 13th annual Henry Clay banquet at the Park Hotel. The Rev. B. F. Patterson, superintendent of the public schools, offered prayer. The committee of arrangements was composed of:—Prof. G. A. Transue, E. G. Faust, D. H. Seibert, G. W. Shoener and B. F. Patterson.

The speakers were:—"The Dignity of American Citizenship," by Hon. C. A. Snyder; "Our Foreign Relations," Prof. S. A. Thurlow; and "Patriotism and Politics," Hon. John Wanamaker, of Philadelphia.

Relative to the visit to Pottsville and reception of Hon. John Wanamaker, "great merchant prince," of Philadelphia and New York City on Oct. 23, 1896 and former Postmaster General, who addressed a crowded mass meeting, in the Academy of Music, it was pronounced as the event of the campaign. Mr. Wanamaker and his accompanying party were escorted from the train to the Merchants' Hotel for an early supper. Then he was given a public reception at the quarters of the Central Republican Club. His address, at the Academy of Music, followed. There was an elaborate street parade and a pyrotechnic display along the short route from the club rooms to the theatre. Flags and bunting were generously displayed.

The reception committee comprised:— Major Heber S. Thompson, W. L. Sheafer, James Muir, Robert Al-

lison, J. H. Zerbey, W. H. Lewis, R. C. Luther, Henry C. Matten, George W. Johns, Andrew B. Robertson, Thomas G. Allan, H. C. Russel, J. P. Jones, N. C. Morrison, Dr. D. W. Bland, A. B. Cochran, R. H. Koch, James Aikman, G. C. Schrink, Wm. Brazier, Col. Thos. H. Rickert, M. R. Nichols, Jesse Drumheller, E. D. Smith, August Knecht, T. H. Griffiths, Jas. A. Archbald, M. J. McGurl, John I. Matthias, Dr. F. W. Boyer, D. H. Seibert and William Atkins.

During the time that the Central Republican Club conducted theatrical attractions at the Academy of Music, which was during April, 1886, the organization netted $221.49 on Sol. Smith Russell; and $108.40 on the "Black Flag." The petite Annie Pixley was brought here by the organization, at a loss of $50.

The receipts of the first public banquet, in June 1885, at the Penn Hall Hotel, were $69.60 and the expenses, $69.57. There was a balance of three cents which was turned over to the treasurer.

After Ed. G. Faust reported dues collected, to the amount of $22.10, on Jan. 5, 1886, he was given a vote of thanks and elected collector for a term of one year.

On March 25, 1886, the quarters, in the Huntzinger building, were procured for a period of five years at $150 per year.

Receptions were given by the Club to Attorney General Kirkpatrick, Hon. G. W. Delamater, John Dalzell, Hon. Chas. W. Stone, John Wanamaker, and other notables, at various times, following the fall of 1887.

On Oct. 6, 1888, the Club was fitted out with full equipment of caps, capes, leggings and torches.

The Central Republican Club, during the first forty years of its existence, had three secretaries, viz: G. A. Berner, E. G. Faust and Prof. T. C. Knowles and two treasurers, Daniel Schertle who was succeeded by his son, Harry Schertle. All of these officials, except the elder Schertle, are hale and hearty today.

One of the cherished possessions of W. H. Levan, of Schuylkill Haven is a letter, from Henry Clay, written under date of March 31, 1848, from Ashland, Kentucky, which was read, to the Central Republican Club, at its first banquet. Its text follows: "I received your friendly letter requesting my autograph which I take pleasure accordingly in transmitting. I regretted very much that, during my late visit to Philadelphia, I could not visit the great coal region of Pennsylvania which I have long wished to see. I hope yet to have that satisfaction. Reciprocating all your kind words, I am your friend and obedient servant," signed, Henry Clay.

The marching organization of the Central Republican Club, during the "Wide Awake" campaigns, as they were known, in the days of the latter 80's, traversed almost every town in Schuylkill County, from Tamaqua to Pine Grove and from Ringtown to Auburn. In those times, the automobile was unknown and transportation was, for the most part, by railroad and, sometimes, in "tallyhos" or big wagons.

E. G. Faust, being identified with the P. & R. C. & I. Co. paymaster's department, came into contact with almost every employee of the great coal-producing and transportation corporation. Due to his remarkable acquaintanceship, he was able to enroll many mining superintendents, clerks and other colliery officials, as members of the Central Republican Club.

G. A. Berner, the first secretary of the organization, on account of being elected town clerk, in 1890,

felt constrained to resign his post, during 1892, because the meeting of the Borough Council and that of the Club were held on the same night.

Among the members of note, who were associated with the Club, were: John H. Zimmerman, Daniel Schertle, Harry Schertle, Jacob S. Ulmer, Wm. H. Knowlton, Wm. C. Wilson, Samuel Silliman, Daniel H. Steinbach, David Critz, Prof. S. A. Thurlow, J. H. Zerbey, Rev. B. F Patterson, Burd S. Patterson, J. G. Lowrey, Hon. R. H. Koch, Wm. S. Graham, Eli Heisler, G. A. Berner, Geo. W. Shoener, Louis B. Ulmer. Jacob Ulmer, Walter H. Huntzinger, Prof. David Herbert, Theodore Saylor, Horace B. McCool, Bert McCool, A. B. Cochran, William Cochran, Col. Wm. Thompson, Major Heber S. Thompson, Dr. Jas. S. Carpenter, Captain David H. Seibert, E. G. Faust, and a host of others of the old and new regime of this prominent political organization.

As a testimonial, upon the retirement of Harry C. Schertle, treasurer, which also marked the 40th anniversary of the Club, on June 6, 1924, the organization motored to Schartlesville for a chicken-and-waffle supper. President Nelson J. Clayton, officiated as toastmaster. Responses were made by E. G. Faust, John Reber, L. C. Klein, Paul Harner and Harry C. Schertle.

There were forty-seven members present. Mr. Schertle served for a score of years as treasurer and Mr. Faust as secretary for 18 years. Mr. Harner was selected as the new treasurer.

This was the last notable function conducted under the auspices of the Central Republican Club. There were the following members present: John Reber, Nelson J. Clayton, E. G. Faust, Prof. G. H. Weiss, Jos. Davenport, Wm. H. Knoll, Dr. Chas. V. Wadlinger, Morris H. Spicker, Dr. Geo. W. Wadlinger, Robert C. Hamilton, Dr. Theodore Schneider, Paul Harner, Jas. Booth, Dr. Robert M. Biddle, Prof. T. C. Knowles, Louis Eber, Roy Wagner, Harry Deibert, Robert Jenkins, Edward Kline, L. W. Klein, Thomas "Jack" Evans, Chas. F. Deeney, Peter Vales, Andrew Cassamaitis, David Bartsch, Wm. A. White, Jas. Tobin, Max Eber, J. H. Fertig, Theo. Lecher, Elmore Scheerer, James Snyder, E. W. DeWitt, C. A. Whitehouse, C. M. Palmer, Walker Kinzey, Fred Von der Heiden, H. C. Schertle, O. L. Romberger, Nicholas Cassamaitis, Wm. Cookson, Paul Schulze, Wilson Weissner, Edward White, Droz Snyder, Theo. Lecher, and Howard W. Barnes, of Harrisburg, State Supt. of Highways.

Juvenile Court Was Formed in 1912

(From "Pottsvile Republican"-"Morning Paper," June 7, 1934)

On March 18, 1912, the first step for the formation of the Juvenile Court was taken. On this day, representative citizens appeared in court and expressed their conviction that the Schuylkill County Court should establish a separate court for those under 16 years of ago, for the correction and education of the many juvenile criminals who had been annually brought before the courts on various charges.

These appearing in behalf of the movement, consisted of delegates of the Pottsville Civic Society together with the Men's Religious Movement. Ten petitions signed by prominent citizens of all parts of the county were presented. Oral pleas were also made. The petitions presented had been circulated in Pottsville, Shenandoah, Mahanoy City, Ashland, Tamaqua, Pinegrove, Gilberton, Tremont and Minersville, containing in all, several thousand signatures.

Mrs. S. A. Thurlow, of Pottsville, the widow of a former Pottsville Superintendent of schools, was the spokeswoman for the Civic Asso., which was composed of over a score of prominent women in Pottsville. She pointed out the urgent need for the establishment of a Juvenile Court, as the need was apparent from every section of the county. Children of both sexes were frequently brought before the courts, and many times of necessity were admitted to various institutions for correction, when, under the watchful eye of the Probation Officer, they could be made over into good men and women and useful citizens.

Mrs. Frank Carter, a daughter of Ex-Judge Cyrus L. Pershing, whose picture as ex-former president judge of the county adorns number one court room, told of the many incidents encountered by her father during his career on the bench. Mrs. Carter stressed there was great need for the selection of a probation officer to assist the court in its work. She maintained this officer should be one who would lay aside all selfish and political motives and enter the work with the spirit that was demanded of the position.

W. A. Cather, as a representative of the Men's Committee, presented to the court a record of the cases which should have come before a probation officer and Juvenile Court during the year, had there been such an institution in the county.

Judges Bechtel and Brumm both made remarks upon the subject and hinted that the establishment of such a court had already been considered by the judges of the county. Judge Brumm was of the opinion that one probation officer such as was in use in Berks County would in no wise be sufficient for this county as the centers of crime are too widely separated. He further stated that the record submitted by Mr. Cather was not complete, as many of the cases had been heard in chambers to avoid the notoriety and to aid the juveniles to improve their records. Moving pictures,

slot machines and cigarettes were blamed by the courts as the cause of crime among the juveniles in this county, and the courts were of the unanimous opinion that no child should be allowed to attend a movie unless accompanied by the parents.

It was this concerted effort that finally brought into existence the Juvenile Court, that has functioned since 1912.

After having given the matter due consideration, Judges Koch, Brumm and Bechtel on July 1, 1912, named Prof. B. S. Simonds, of Pottsville, as the first Probation Officer of the county. The volume of work increased in Juvenile Court as it was no longer the practices of the courts to hear the cases against those under 16 years age limit that had run afoul of the law.

Time went on with the work becoming so voluminous that in 1925 the courts named Mrs. Emily Mortimer of Pottsville, as the Female Probation officer of the county. Prof. Simonds was only called upon to take care of the boys that were brought into court.

On October 1, 1932, Prof. Simonds tendered his resignation and court appointed W. W. Scott, of Hometown, to take over the reins of the office. During the time that Prof. Simonds served he handled more than 5000 cases, of which approximately 3500 were males and the balance females. The amount of moneys handled by him, consisting of court costs and fines imposed by the courts, etc., aggregated $64,772.-16, a splendid record

Whenever a prisoner or defendant is placed on parole or probation he or she is placed in the custody of the probation officer, whose duty it is to have those so placed, to make a report every month to the office as to their whereabouts and general conditions. In addition, arrangements must be made to take care of the payment of the costs and the fine in the cases.

Whenever the juvenile delinquents are ordered to be taken to institutions, those up to 15 years of age are taken to Glen Mills for boys, others are committed to the care of the Catholic Child Bureau at Phila., who distribute the children in various institutions under their supervision. Those above the ages of 15 and not over 25 are sent to the Huntingdon Industrial School. Women are sent to the Muncy Industrial School as well as the St. Joseph's Home at Norristown, where the ages range up to 16 years. Then there is the East Penna. Institute for feeble minded and epileptics where there is no age limit.

When Prof. Simonds took over the office in 1912, he resigned as supervising principal of the Centre St. School in Pottsville, and up until the time he resigned the probation office he had witnessed the business quadrupling in the office since the time of its inception up until 1932.

One feature of the office is found in the secretary, Miss Anna Traycheck, of Shenandoah, who is the master of five different languages and is only in her teens. None of the juveniles arrested are ever brought before the judges in open courts. The judges hear the cases in chambers and the press allows the issues to go by, in hope that with an extra chance those involved will turn out to be citizens that the county can be well proud of, after having received their lesson. All juveniles awaiting a hearing are kept in the detention house, none being committed to prison.

County Lawyers Formed Association in 1902

(From "Pottsville Republican"-"Morning Paper," June 8, 1934)

In the year, 1902, the practicing attorneys of the county of Schuylkill conceived the idea that there should be an organization formed for the furtherance of their work. There were many questions which came up for discussion among the attorneys which should naturally come before an organized body for disposition. It was felt that a unity of action would serve both the attorneys and their clients.

In accordance with the idea, a meeting was subsequently held and on March 8th, 1902, The Schuylkill County Law Association organization was effected. The officers elected were Chancellor G. E. Farquhar, Vice-Chancellor J. B. Reilly and Secretary, E. D. Smith. All of these officers are now dead. The members consisted of R. H. Koch, W. K. Woodbury, of Pottsville, now living. The now deceased members were in addition to the officers: D. C. Henning, T. H. B. Lyon, S. H. Kaercher, George M. Roads, F. W. Bechtel, N. Heblich, D. A. Jones, C. C. Matten, S. B. Edwards, W. J. Whitehouse, J. F. Whalen, J. W. Moyer, F. G. Farquhar, J. Lineweaver, J. W. Ryan and M. P. McLaughlin.

This original organization did not fare so well, as far as activities were concerned, and merely marked time for some time, with nothing being accomplished. Then the younger generation of attorneys conceived the idea that the time was ripe for the formation of an organization that would pass on the many matters pertaining to the law business. This thought was put to work on May 1, 1915, when a meeting of the attorneys of the county was called at the court house. From this meeting, the present existant law organization was born, as it was decided to organize an association, and a committee was appointed to draft a constitution and by-laws. On June 7, 1915, the constitution and by-laws were accepted.

John F. Whalen, of Pottsville, the oldest practitioner in point of service at the local bar was elected the chancellor; Chas. E. Berger, also of Pottsville, elected Vice-Chancellor, D. W. Kaercher of Pottsville, the secretary. W. K. Woodbury also of Pottsville, was elected treasurer of the association, but as there were no funds to handle, he relinquished this position. Upon the death of Mr. Whalen in 1932, M. M. Burke of Shenandoah, was elected Chancellor and A. D. Knittle Vice-Chancellor. The original fee for membership and dues was $5 a year, and the meetings were to be held annually on the first Monday in January of each year, for the transaction of routine business. Several annual meetings were held then forgotten about. The membership fee was not collected and the treasury became depleted.

The work done by the association at the present time consists of passing resolutions, whenever a death of any legal practitioner in the county occurs, the revision of the rules of practice in the local courts,

so that Schuylkill County will have a set course or form to follow in the many sides of the criimnal, civil and orphan's court procedures. The rules were adopted by the courts and placed in working order in the beginning of 1933. A committee worked for two years on the formation of these rules of practice. A printed book showing the forms was sent out to all members of the bar in December, 1932.

Anything relative and vital to the legal profession is taken up by this body. The list of members has constantly increased until at the present time the attorneys at law carried on the official roster number 109, including the following: W. C. Devitt, W. G. Treibly, F. J. Laubenstein, L. E. Enterline, C. W. Staudenmeier and H. F. Kehler, all of Ashland; F. V. Filbert, of Auburn; E. J. McGuire, Branchdale; P. J. Flannery, G. H. Watkins, Osborne Wisansky, all of Frackville.

M. A. Kilker, E. J. O'Donnell, J. J. Durkin and C. C. Kilker, all of Girardville; Mahanoy City consists of Robert P. Swank, Michael J. Ryan, Jos. T. Lyons, James A. Dolphin, Joseph J. Kenney, John J. Moran, James H. O'Connor, James J. Gallagher, Frank A. Gallagher, James Bohorad and Edw. A. Kaier; Minersville, John B. McGurl, John W. Clemens, Thomas C. Condron, Melvin Jenkins, Walter Sidoriak, James J. Curran and John G. Callendar; L. P. Dailey, Adam Bavolack and John Skweir, of McAdoo; M. H. Moyer and G. E. Waltman, of Orwigsburg; W. K. Woodbury, Hon. R. H. Koch, N. S. Farquhar, D. W. Kaercher, George W. Geise, Chas. E. Berger, J. H. Filbert, Hon. H. O. Bechtel, A. D. Knittle, G. A. Berner, George Streigel, W. L. Kramer, C. F. Muehlhof, B. D. Troutman, Otto E. Farquhar, J. L. N. Channell, R. A. Freiler, Martin J. Duffy, George Ellis, Jacob H. Rothstein, John H. Fertig, A. Julian Pilgram, Frances Zerbey Braun, J. F. Mahoney, Harry L. Maize, L. L. Franks, Geo. H. Kaercher, Roscoe R. Koch, Edgar Downey, Oliver N. Heblich, Geo. L. Reed, David W. Bechtel, Prall B. Roads, Harold L. Paul, Robert C. Brenneman, W. Maynard Stapleton, Penrose Hertzeler, Leon N. Mandell, Elwyn Jones, C. A. Whitehouse, all of Pottsville; Ralph Lindenmuth, of Ringtown; J. L. Stauffer, G. M. Paxson, V. J. Dalton, Luther Bashore, all of Sch. Haven; M. M. Burke, E. W. Shoemaker, Jos. P. Monaghan, Jas. D. Creary, Daniel J. Ferguson, Herbert T. Williams, P. H. Burke, Bernard V. O'Hare, Z. F. Rynkiewicz, Luther B. Edwards, Martin V. McGuire, Felix F. O'Hare, Frank M. Bradigan, all of Shenandoah. From Tamaqua are the following: J. O. Ulrich, F. P. Krebs, R. J. Graeff, D. J. Boyle, A. L. Reese. Tower City, E. J. Webb, Joseph G. Seesholtz and Howard G. Stutzman. Tremont, Ralph M. Bashore. Coaldale, B. J. Duffy. Gilberton, Thomas Kerrigan. Kline Township, Frank A. Bruno.

Bicycling Was Once Popular Sport

(From "Pottsville Republican"-"Morning Paper," June 9-11, 1934)

During the latter eighties bicycle-riding was begun in Pottsville and this new form of travel fast became popular.

Herman Rabenau, W. Market St. business man, Richard Kear and Lincoln Phillips were the first riders of the initial type of pedaled machines, balancing themselves on the five-foot or 60-inch type of wheels. These bicyclists served to keep alive interest in the "new-fangled" transportation so that after the lower solid-tire and cushiontire wheels immediate predecessors of the pneumatic-tire machines, came into vogue, growth in the ranks of riders naturally increased.

This interest resulted in the organization of the Pottsville Wheelmen during 1887. The Rev. B. F. Patterson, superintendent of Pottsville's public schools, for many years who used one of the early, low bicycles in visiting the schools of the district, was the organization's initial executive officer. Associated with him was a personnel of prominent residents of this community, most of whom have long since passed to their final reward.

The members of this organization, among them quite a number of women, represented a better class of people who came from families who could afford the expense which was entailed to be affiliated with and keep up membership in this organization which was something of an exclusive institution in the early days. From its inception it was identified with the League of American Wheelmen. The type of its members naturally made it just as prominent a social organization as it was an aggregation of excellent bicycle-riders.

Associated with the Pottsville Wheelmen, the first organization of its kind in this section of the state, although the Mahanoy City Wheelmen, Tamaqua Wheelmen and Hazleton Wheelmen, thrived some time later, contemporaneous with the upstate organizations, was the Penn Wheelmen, of Reading, still in existence, but now flourishing as a social organization. Each of the others has passed into the historical discard.

But the Pottsville Wheelmen was the first bicycle organization in the anthracite regions of Pennsylvania, antedating by quite a few years similar organizations outside of Philadelphia and some of the bigger cities and towns in the lower part of the Schuylkill Valley. One of the factors that kept alive interest in the local Wheelmen's organization was that the active promoters were Herman Rabenau, Robert J. Mills and W. B. Fegley, each of whom sold bicycles throughout this and surrounding communities.

Though the lower type of wheels jumped into rapid popularity, from the time of their first being placed on the market, Herman Rabenau still rode the high wheel as late as 1896. Among the first low wheels, the World type was ridden by him. This, in a short time, gave place to other grades of bicycles until the time of the pneumatic wheels that put all other kinds in eclipse.

Using the high wheel and low wheel Rabenau entered many hill-climbing contests and carried off numerous prizes. His greatest feat was ascending the steep highway over the Tumbling Run Mountain to Middleport. This was on a lower

wheel. Rabenau's feat, during that period, was never duplicated.

One of the outstanding accomplishments of the Pottsville Wheelmen was a "century run", a trip of 100 miles, which had to be finished within twenty-four hours. The route was from Pottsville to Philadelphia. This trip was made by a considerable number of the members of the organization a comparatively few years after the Pottsville Wheelmen was organized.

Rabenau, associated with Walter Whiting, son of the superintendent of the Pottsville shops of the P. & R. C. & I. Co., and Roy McLeod, of the railroad official's family, headed groups of the organization which made bicycle trips to New York City and Atlantic City as well as participating in many shorter runs.

During a great county bicycle parade, in Pottsville, fostered by the Pottsville Wheelmen, Rabenau was among the few who rode a high wheel. Strange to say the danger, attendant about being perched so high in the air atop a five-foot bicycle, was not so great. There were not so many headers taken as were later associated with riding the lower types.

Referring to favorite routes taken by members of the Pottsville Wheelmen, the Schuylkill Valley, between Pottsville and Cumbola, New Phila., Middleport, Tuscarora and Tamaqua were most popular. Trips through the West End and to Pinegrove were frequently taken. From St. Clair to Frackville was another highway that was much used by the local wheelmen.

Coasting was a favorite pastime of the owners of the early high wheels. A rider, after topping the summit of a hill, would let his machine go by gravity down the other side. He would ride with his feet pushed over the handle-bars in perfect security. There were few casualties although people would look upon such riding as a decided menace in this present day.

Members of the Pottsville Wheelmen, outstanding as fast pedalers, were Fred. Bernet, of Pottsville; Oscar Knipe, of Orwigsburg; and Jack Corser who came from New York City, and made his home here for some years. This trio rode on all the cinder path events not only in Schuylkill but several other counties of Pennsylvania even at remote points that carried them far from home. Their prowess was such that they carried off many cash prizes as well as loving cups and medals.

Another bicyclist who gained long-distance fame was F. Raymond Wadlinger, who covered the trip from Pottsville to Philadelphia, on his wheel. At a later date he went over the same route on foot to satisfy himself and a group of his friends that he could do it in a limited time.

In 1894, Corser represented Pottsville, and, incidentally, Schuylkill County, in a great bicycle tournament which was conducted under the athletic association of Princeton College and carried off honors.

Thirty-eight years ago, on the night, of Oct. 7, 1896, Pottsville was all agog over a great event. It was a great parade of the Pottsville Wheelmen and one of the greatest events in their history.

The organization, which was sponsoring the affair, was composed of progressive young men and women who had ventured to master the art of bicycling and, on this night the parade was the climax to their aspirations to be noted riders.

The plans were well made. A number of prominent wheelmen gathered at police headquarters and made the preliminary plans. Chas. H. Woltjen, Jr., was elected chairman of the meeting and also president of the Pottsville Cycle

Parade Association. G. A. Transue was elected marshal.

This bicycle demonstration surpassed all the fondest hopes of the committees. There were 250 wheelmen in line, with Mahanoy City, St. Clair, Pinegrove, Reading, Minersville being represented. It was a fantastic pageant with attractive prizes to be captured. The line of march was from Robbins Hall, (now Hummel's Store) down to the Sheafer Building and return. As a climax to the parade, refreshments were served in Robbins' Hall on North Centre St.

There were all sorts of costumes worn by the riders of the gaily decorated vehicles. One of the most important committees was the "Sprinkling Committee" which saw to it that the streets were in proper shape for the event. This was composed of: Messrs. G. A. Transue, W. B. Fegley and Dr. A. A. Seibert. They performed their duties admirably and all the annoying dust had been allayed when the parade began.

There were some catastrophes, however. Albert Wetzel had his wheel, arranged like a dragon, and Herman Rabenau converted his high wheel into a ship. As the result of a jam, the two machines were badly disarranged. Ed. Speacht was in a collision with another wheelman and had five spokes of his wheel broken. There were many bicycle lamps and parts lost.

The prize winners were as follows: Lady making the handsomest appearance, Miss Minnie Howell, of Pottsville; gentleman, making the handsomest appearance, Joseph B. Gately, Pt. Clinton; best decorated gentleman's wheel, Geo. Aregood; best illuminated gentleman's wheel, David V. Potts; most fantastically attired lady, Mrs. Jesse Webb, Mahanoy City; best decorated ladies' wheel, Miss Mame White, St. Clair; youngest lady rider, Miss Bessie Wildermuth, Pottsville.

Most humorous character, Harry L. Williams, Jr., Pottsville; oldest wheel, Max Doerflinger, riding the 80 year old machine of the late P. W. Sheafer; youngest rider, Alfred Fry, Pottsville; wittiest and most appropriate banner, Benj. and Thos. C. Knowles; club with largest delegation, Mahanoy City Wheelmen; club making the handsomest appearance, Fegley's Club, Pottsville, composed of Robt. Howell, Jos. Freiler, Dr. A. A. Seibert, Del Gressang, Fred Bernet, J. O Bearstler, Alexander Madison, all of Pottsville, Wm. Davis, St. Clair; Jacob Seltzer and Frank Shortall.

The most humorous juvenile costume, Lawrence Folmer, Orwigsburg; finest appearing patrolman, Hiram S. Davies, Pottsville; best decorated tandem, Edw. Geanslen, Minersville; best juvenile rider, Henry Royer, Jr., Pottsville; oldest rider in line, Capt. A. J. Derr, of Pottsville; wittiest inscription on banner, Geo. Christ.

The judges were as follows: Robert Allison, Chas. N. McGinnes, Geo. W. Johns, Col. Thos. H. Rickert, Capt. D. H. Seibert, Chas. D. Elliot, S. B. Briscoe, Channing Shumway and Wm. L. Allan.

Reception Committee—Captain Baird Halberstadt, Dr. Wendel Reber, Charles Parkins, Herman Rabenau, Clyde Meyers, Fred P. Bernet, Harry Matten, Edward A. Moyer, Frank Roseberry, John Potts, Louis S. Ulmer, John Reber, and Wm. Fitzpatrick, the latter of Port Carbon.

Ladies' Committee—Mrs. A. W. Swartz, Chairman; Mrs. B. S. Simonds, Miss Sallie Gillmore, Mrs. C. N. McGinnes, Miss Callie Smith, Miss Jennie Kennedy, and Miss Nan Henning.

A Republican Woman's Edition In 1896

(From "Pottsville Republican"-"Morning Paper," June 12-16, 1934)

Although the women did not get the right to vote for many years afterwards, it may be interesting to many of the present generation to know that as early as June 13, 1896, the "Republican" had a "Womans' Edition" of its paper which was a big success and was the first of its kind in this section.

The women of the Methodist Church had pledged themselves to pay $1,000 toward the church fund and the late J. H. Zerbey volunteered the services of his newspaper for a day to aid them in raising this fund. The women did the soliciting for all of the advertising, acted as reporters and were stationed in the various departments of the newspaper, where with the use of the regular newspaper force, they were allowed the privilege of choosing the material which should go into the day's paper and edit it according to their ideas.

A glance at the 24 page paper which was issued on that day shows that the women were very ambitious and produced an edition of which they might well be proud. They didn't forget the news from the World at large, coming in over the telegraph wire, but they did lean largely to the news of the town and its people as well as of the towns of the county. They had poetry and a discussion on music and historical sketches of the churches and organizations of the town, editorials, miscellaneous news, "tid-bits," "Bright Sayings of Pottsville Children," a story page, household hints, recipes, articles on art and literature, discussion of school topics, and fads of the day. One corner was devoted to contributions from local residents of things to which they objected. The contributors to this column were not brave enough to sign their names, however; a description of Pottsville and its attractions; fashion talk on millinery, dresses, etc, and a woman to cover the Court procedure and write a history of the methods used in trying a case.

The Edition was managed and edited by the following: Manager-Editor, Mrs. A. W. Schalck; Secretary, Mrs. J. H. Zerbey; Treasurer, Mrs. B. I. Sheafer; Financial Secretary, Mrs. J. D. Fox.

The Associate Managers and Editors were: Mrs. S. D. Kynor, Mrs. J. R. Diehm, Mrs. E. M. Heilner, Mrs. W. D. Pollard, Mrs. Fred Shoener, Mrs. R. A. Zerbey, Miss Ida Sigfried, Mrs. W. C. Fox, Mrs. A. W. Swarts, Mrs. D. E. Bible, Mrs. J. F. Zerbey, Mrs. A. E. Harper, Mrs. D. Lewis, Mrs. A. Roehrig, Mrs. J. H. Fisher, Mrs. S. M. Mortimer, Mrs. H. S. Zerbey, Mrs. D. G. Smith, Mrs. Theo. Bowen, Mrs. Irene Brew, Mrs. G. A. Berner, Mrs. L. K. Hannum, Mrs. Wm. Sparks, Mrs. Kate Bowen, Mrs. J. N. Hodgson, Mrs. Sydney Shaw, Mrs. J. N. Rich, and Mrs. H. Dodge.

The following were the Consulting Board: Mrs. J. K. Sigfried, Mrs. Naomi Sparks, Mrs. W. M. Zerbey, Mrs. N. C. Morrison, Mrs. J. W. Beecher, Mrs. Wm. Buechley, Mrs. Chas. T. Bowen, Mrs. Chas. F. Gallus, Mrs. Phillips, Mrs. John Maguire, Mrs. Henry Matten, Mrs. B. H. Guldin, Mrs. A. J. Derr, Mrs. Henry Moll, Mrs. Fred. Freed, Mrs. Samuel Baynton, Mrs. R. W. Hooper, Mrs. Samuel Keiter, Mrs. David Reed, Mrs. Jas. Focht, and Mrs. Wm. Cooper.

Midwinter Educational Club Formed in '94

(From "Pottsville Republican"-"Morning Paper," June 12-18, 1934)

Pottsville's Midwinter Educational Club, which has always carried on its membership rolls representative citizens of the community, was organized on Nov. 19, 1894. Its growth and influence has been steady throughout almost four prosperous decades which have passed since the literary and debating organization was instituted. Meritorious papers, developing pertinent themes, have been read and discussed establishing stepping stones to greater literary endeavors so that membership, in the organization, is highly valued. The debates and discussions, after experiences of so many useful years, are now of a decidedly scholarly character and the members can hardly wait for the lapse of the two weeks between meetings. Visitors, as well as members appreciated it as a treat to attend these profitable gatherings.

At the initial meeting were: Jos. F. Patterson, Baird Halberstadt, John Krieg, Percy L. Knowlton, H. O. Bechtel, J. G. Smith, H. G. McGinnes and Geo. Striegel. As temporary chairman, Mr. Striegel was named. Then the following officers were elected: Jos. F. Patterson, Pres.; Geo. Striegel, Vice Pres.; H. G. McGinnes, Secy.-Treas.

Mr. Striegel read a paper, "Is Truth or the Mental Exercise in Pursuit of Truth, the Supreme End?" Mr. Bechtel started the study of American history by discussing the biographies of the men who participated in the discovery of America. This was followed by an open discussion. Mr. Patterson narrated the current events of the week speaking on the death of the Czar of all the Russians and of the war between China and Japan.

Percy L. Knowlton, who was unable to be present but prepared a paper, on "The North American Indians," placed it in the hands of John G. Smith, who read the treatise. It precipitated a free discussion of the rights of the Aborigines to the lands in the new world.

In addition to those in attendance at the first meeting of the Club, a few weeks later, there were formally enrolled: Horace Smith, Dr. Wendel Reber, Daniel Duffy, Prof. Frederic Gerhard, John Maguire, G. A. Berner, Jay G. Shumway, R. C. Morris, Jr., G. F. Bretz, Joseph B. Hoellman, Jos. Esterly, A. J. Derr, C. H. Woltjen, Jr., John T. Werner, C. E. Kendrick, Dr. P. H. O'Hara, John Reber.

During 1895, there were added the names of: J. S. Parker, Harry C. Frick, Benj. Troutman, Chas. Prosser, W. M. Faussett, C. B. Sillyman, Rev. Edward J. Haughton, Claude Turner, Harvey Thompson, Captain Jas. S. Carpenter, 3rd., Edw. L. Keane, John T. Werner, Arthur R. Womrath, Chas. Focht.

At the 13th meeting of the organization, on Nov. 25th, the Club accepted an invitation from the Schuylkill Shakespeare Students' Society, with other Pottsville societies and was entertained at the home of Miss Jessie Little, of the Shakespearean organization. Dr. Wendel Reber represented the Club on an interesting program.

All the meetings, from the institution of the Midwinter Educational Club were held at the office of President Patterson. On May 20th. the weekly meetings were abandoned and, instead, sessions, thereafter, were held on the first and third Mondays of every month.

At the first meeting of the second year of the Club's existence, the following officers were elected: Jos. F. Patterson, Pres.; Dr. Wendel Reber, Vice Pres.; and Harry G. McGinnes, Secy.

Club members were special guests at the Shakespearean lecture by Dr. Furness, who came to Pottsville under auspices of the county Shakespearean organization.

The meeting scheduled for Dec. 2nd, was not held because the members wished to attend the concert, at the Academy of Music, by Pottsville's Third Brigade Band and the Ringgold Band, of Reading.

During 1896 new members, as follows, were enrolled: Richard W. Knight, Dr. Geo. H. Boone, Dr. Geo. W. Farquhar, Howell Tracy Fisher, Jas. Archbald, C. A. Snyder, Frank R. Minker, Lewis D. Rights, R. M. Gerety, Rev. Jas. B. May, J. Harry Filbert, A. D. Knittle, Chas. E. Breckons.

C. H. Woltjen, Jr., succeeded as secretary, Harry G. McGinnes, who resigned.

Officers elected for the ensuing year were: Jos. F. Patterson, Pres.; Dr. Wendel Reber, Vice Pres.; C. H. Woltjen, Secy-Treas.

At the meeting of Oct. 26th, the members were classified as active, associate and honorary.

A native Indian bow and arrows were presented to the club by Mr. Rights. Resolutions of regret were adopted because of the removal of Vice President Reber to Phila.

Dr. Victor Roth was a visitor at the initial meeting of 1897, conducted at President Patterson's office on the night of Jan. 4th. The club, after the next meeting, changed the session for another night, so the members could attend a meeting of the King's Daughters.

During the year, the names of Arthur Stong and John J. O'Connor were added to the membership roll.

Officers were elected: Jos. F. Patterson, Pres.; Geo. Striegel, Vice Pres.; C. H. Woltjen, Jr., Secy.-Treas. The club entertained, as their honored guest, the Rev. John Huse Eastman at the Nov. meeting.

During the year there were admitted as members: J. L. Stauffer, of Sch. Haven; Thos. J. Evans, of Minersville.

The fourth year of the club was started Jan. 4, 1898. During that period the following members were enrolled: John Reber, Evan Johnson.

The club attended the second anniversary services of the Brotherhood of St. Andrew, at Trinity Episcopal Church, on Jan. 30th. At the last Feb. meeting, the club was entertained by a phonograph program given by Pres. Patterson.

The papers for the first meeting of Mar. were laid aside in order to give the members opportunity to see the great comedian, Frank Daniels, in the opera, "Wizard of the Nile" at the Academy of Music.

With a half dozen other clubs of the town, the Midwinter Educational Club were delightfully entertained at the home of Mrs. Geo. R. Kaercher, on Tremont St., Apr. 27th.

At the May meeting, officers, as follows, were elected: Jos. F. Patterson, Pres.; Geo. Striegel, Vice Pres.; Chas. H. Woltjen, Jr., Secy.-Treas. Because of service which John G. and Horace Smith gave as members of Co. H, Eighth Infantry, P. V. I., during the Spanish American War, they were recorded on the minutes of each meeting as though present, and exonerated from payment of all dues.

W. K. Woodbury, Esq., at this meeting, representing the Neighbors' Club, addressed the organization on the pleasure that the meeting of the united social organiza-

tions proved. He suggested an interchange of the papers read at all the clubs in the community.

The mid-summer meeting was held at Pres. Patterson's Pitman boat house, at the upper Tumbling Run dam, on the afternoon and evening of July 18th. The club enjoyed a chicken and waffle supper at Kline's Summer Garden.

There were elected to membership: D. G. Lubold, A. J. Pilgram, H. L. Williams, Carl Wagner.

On Nov. 9th, at the invitation of the Schuylkill Shakespeare Students Society, the Midwinter Club, with other clubs of the town, attended a reading by Dr. J. F. Powers, on "The Merchant of Venice," which was given in the Beddall Building.

Forwarded from Camp McKensie, at Chickamauga, Ga., a paper written by John G. Smith, a Spanish-American War soldier, on the theme "The South and the Negro" was read to the club by C. A. Snyder.

On Jan. 3rd, the first meeting of 1899 was conducted. The meeting scheduled for Feb. 13th was not held because of a blizzard.

At the meeting of Mar. 13th, Morgan Lloyd, of Ashland, was entertained as a guest of the club. After the meeting of Mar. 20th, the members of the club had a dinner at Klitsch's Restaurant,, as a welcome home to John G. and Horace Smith, from their Spanish-American War service.

Featuring the meeting of Apr. 24th, H. G. McGinnes read clippings from the "Emporium and Press" published in Pottsville in 1849.

Officers were elected, for the ensuing year, at the meeting of May 1st, as follows: Jos. F. Patterson, Pres.; D. G. Lubold, Vice Pres.; Horace Smith, Secy.-Treas.

New members elected were: O. H. Farquhar, Esq. and J. W. Fox.

The club started the year of 1900 with a meeting on Jan. 8th. At the meeting of May 7th, the result of the election for officers follows: Jos. F. Patterson, Pres.; D. G. Lubold, Vice Pres.; Otto E. Farquhar, Esq., Secy.-Treas.

There was elected as a new member R. Albert Freiler. The first meeting of 1901 was on Jan. 7th.

The Feb. meeting was adjourned so that the members could hear Dr. Robinson's lecture on "Longfellow." The only change in officers was C. H. Woltjen, Jr. as Secy.-Treas.

Members elected during the year follow: Irvin A. Reed, J. B. Robertson, Martin F. Duffy, Morris H. Spicker, Jas. L. N. Channell, Prof. B. S. Simonds, Geo. W. Gise, Claude Lewis.

The meetings were, temporarily, transferred from the office of the president to that of John G. Smith, Esq.

At the meeting of Nov. 4th, Jos. Whitehouse, of Tacoma, Wash., a native of Pottsville, was the guest speaker about the great Northwest.

The first meeting of 1902 was held on Jan. 6th. It was scheduled for March 17th but could not be held as the members all went to the Academy of Music to take in "Floradora." For a similar reason the meeting of April 7th was not held the Club going to the Academy of Music to see "The Runaway Girl."

On July 14th, the Club observed their "annual wash," at Tumbling Run, making their headquarters at boat house of H. O. Bechtel, after a dinner served in the hotel.

M. F. Duffy succeeded to the secretaryship on the resignation of C. H. Woltjen, at the meeting of Oct. 13.

M. H. Moyer, of Orwigsburg, was elected to membership.

Geo. W. Garrett, of Orwigsburg, was entertained as a guest at the meeting held on Nov. 10th.

At the meeting of Dec. 22nd, an accident to the town's electric light plant made it necessary to conduct the business by candle light.

Opening the year 1903 there was a meeting held on Jan. 5th. Appropriate action was taken and resolutions adopted, at the meeting of April 10, on the death of Harry G. McGinnes, first secretary of the Club. The members also attended the funeral in a body.

Propose Historical Society

President Patterson, at the meeting of April 13th, appointed, as a committee of five, Messrs. Berner, Filbert, Lubold and Fox, with himself, to devise ways and means to start an historical society of Schuylkill County. At a meeting held, on April 27th, at the office of D. C. Henning, Esq., a committee of three, President Patterson, Vice President Lubold and Attorney A. W. Schalck, was named to select an address to be sent to the representative men, as to the matter of establishing a historical organization of the county towns.

Officers for the ensuing year were elected as follows: Jos. F. Patterson, Pres.; D. G. Lubold, Vice Pres.; Martin F. Duffy, Secy.-Treas.

New members elected were: Dr. L. T. Kennedy, John Reber, Geo. Ellis, Jas. P. Flanagan, Edward L. Keane, Dr. J. F. Flaig, E. Paul Leuschner, Prof. H. G. Dunkelberger.

Inaugurating the year 1904 a meeting was held on Jan. 4th. At the meeting of Jan. 25th, E. J. Webb, Esq., of Tower City, was the guest of the Club.

New members elected were: Herbert T. Williams, Edw. J. Webb, of Tower City.

On July 7th, the "annual wash" was conducted at Tumbling Run, at the Columbia boat house. There was an elaborate chicken and waffle supper.

Harper Bressler, of Tower City, was a visitor at the meeting of Oct. 10th.

The meeting of Dec. 12th was held in the high school building. Prof. B. S. Simonds occupied most of the evening explaining the cabinet, purchased for use at the high school, used for demonstrating the principles of natural philosophy.

Starting 1905, the first meeting was held on Jan. 2nd.

Officers elected were those who previously served.

July 10th was selected for the "annual wash," at Tumbling Run, at the Pitman boat house of President Patterson. After a day of athletic and other activities an elaborate dinner featured the evening.

On account of the lecture by Bishop McCabe, at the Methodist Church, on Dec. 18th, the regular meeting was postponed until two days later.

Members elected during 1906 were: John Robert Jones, of Schuylkill Haven; Dr. G. R. S. Corson, Prof. Thos. C. Knowles, Prof. J. M Schrope, George L. Goodwin, Prof. Bert A. Strohmeier, Julian Pilgram.

The secretary cast the ballot for the election of the roster of officers who served during the previous year, no opposition being put up against any of them.

In automobiles the members of the Club were conveyed to Riland's near Friedensburg, where they enjoyed a chicken and waffle supper.

The members met for the Oct. 29th meeting but adjourned, without any papers being presented, to hear political speakers at the Academy of Music.

On Jan. 7th the 1907 year of the club was started.

No change was made in the roster of officers elected for the year.

The annual outing, again, was held at Riland's. During the year new members were elected as follows: Dr. Governeur Boyer, C. A. Whitehouse.

The year 1908 was begun on Jan. 6th.

One new member was added to the roll in H. E. Greager. Shortly after his election he was chosen as secretary.

Nothing of note was recorded by the Club during the rest of 1908 and the greater part of 1909, but each meeting was productive of able papers and debates.

One new member was elected, during the latter year, Wm. G. Wells, Esq.

Take Up Library Proposal

At the meeting of Dec. 13th, Vice President Lubold called the attention of the Club to the fact that the Civic Society had under consideration plans to secure a public library for Pottsville. At his request, during the meeting of Dec. 20th, a resolution was prepared and read by Dr. Boyer to give the movement fullest support. It was laid on the table to be taken up at a more opportune time.

The first meeting of 1910 was held on Jan. 3rd.

Members elected during the year were: J. H. Zerbey, Jr., Dr. H. J. Herbein, Prof. G. H. Weiss. Dr. Boyer was designated a committee to confer with the Civic Society relative to a public library for Pottsville and to ascertain what action the organization had taken in this matter, and what further action they contemplated taking. Reporting after inquiry, Dr. Boyer said he was informed that Miss Manah Garretson offered a room for placing books but that no books had as yet been collected.

Messrs. Lubold, Fox and Boyer were appointed a committee to meet with the Civic Club and join in steps toward getting a public library. The resolution of support and cooperation toward the new library project, was taken up from the table, where it was placed at a previous meeting, and unanimously carried.

Members of the Club ceasing their activities, after a membership of ten years, were placed on the associate list. No changes were made in officers.

The year 1911 was started with a meeting on Jan. 9th.

Election of members, during the year, were: Prof. Cate, C. E. Calder, J. R. Tallman, Benj. G. Smith, G. T. Burd.

No change was made in the officers.

The first meeting of 1912 was held on Jan. 8th. On Feb. 22nd, the Midwinter Club held a turkey banquet at Coogan's Cafe.

Prof. B. S. Simonds, H. O. Bechtel and J. H. Filbert made addresses on the "Father of his Country," it being the birthday anniversary of George Washington.

J .H. Zerbey, Jr., at the meeting of March 11th, read a paper on, "A Metropolitan Newspaper."

At the April meeting it was decided to, thereafter, hold the Club meetings at the office of George Striegel, Esq.

Members elected, during the year, were: G. E. Gangloff, of Schuylkill Haven; Dr. W. M. Balmer, S. B. Edwards.

On Jan. 6th, 1913, the Club, for the first time, met in their new quarters.

At the meeting of Feb. 17th, Mr. Striegel entertained the Club with an account of his trip to the Ellis Island Immigration Station. There was placed on the membership roll the name of Geo. H. Kaercher.

President Patterson appointed Prof. Simonds and Dr. Corson a committee, representing the Midwinter Educational Club, to meet with representatives of other organizations, of the town, at the invitation of the Civic Club, to arrange for establishing a City Planning Organization.

For officers, to serve during the ensuing year, the tried and true roster of the previous half dozen years, was again unanimously chosen.

At the meeting of Oct. 6th, it was decided to, thereafter, meet in the quarters of the Motor Club.

Meeting on Jan. 5th, the year of 1914 was auspiciously opened.

Though Jos. F. Patterson served as president for the first 20 years of the existence of the Midwinter Club, and wished to retire in someone else's favor, he was unanimously reelected, together with J. Harry Filbert, Esq., vice pres., and H. E. Greager, secty.-treas.

New members elected were: Sergt. McCall and Dr. J. L. Warne.

At the meeting of Nov. 23rd, Geo. Striegel gave a talk about his visit to the convict ship "Success," while it was in Phila.

The first meeting of 1915 was held on Jan. 4th.

The former roster of officers was elected for the ensuing year.

It was on Jan. 3rd that the club started 1916. Resolutions were passed on the death of Jos. F. Patterson, president of the organization, and the members decided to attend the funeral in a body. The next stated meeting was set aside as a mark of respect. At the meeting of Jan. 17th, eulogies were made of their late president by Daniel Duffy, J. H. Filbert, M. F. Duffy, W. M. Faussett, G. H. Kaercher and E. P. Leuschner.

On Mar. 27th, the club directed the secretary to convey to Daniel Duffy, who was undergoing treatment at the State Hospital, at Ft. Springs, the greetings and felicitations of the club.

J. H. Filbert was selected to fill the vacancy as president, caused by the death of Jos. F. Patterson.

New members elected during the year were: H. W. Althouse, Cyrus M. Palmer, W. J. Sheldon, Jr., A. W. Wright.

The club adjourned its stated meeting scheduled for Oct. 30th, because Senator P. C. Knox addressed a political mass meeting in Pottsville on that date.

At the meeting of Jan. 8th, the first in 1917, the memory of the late Dr. Wendel Reber, a former member of the club, whose death occurred in Phila., was eulogized by Daniel Duffy, Dr. G. R. S. Corson and A. D. Knittle, Esq. Resolutions were also passed by the club.

Geo. H. Kaercher, a corporal of Co. C, Pennsylvania Engineers, in the service of the United States, at the same meeting gave an interesting account of camp life and his experiences on the Mexican border.

Hon. James B. Reilly was the guest speaker at the meeting of Feb. 26th, upon invitation, and spoke on the Union Pacific Railroad and his labors as chairman of the Congressional Committee on Railroads named to investigate and report upon plans for an adjustment of affairs as between that corporation and the United States government.

The death of S. B. Edwards, Esq., elected to membership on Apr. 17,

1909, was announced and eulogistic resolutions were passed, unanimously, flowers were sent, and the club attended his obsequies in a body. Addresses were made by G. A. Berner, J. H. Filbert and D. G. Lubold.

The same roster of officers as served the club during the previous year was again elected.

E. W. Gise was elected as a new member.

The year 1918 was opened with a meeting held on Jan. 7th.

The club next met on Tuesday, Jan. 22nd, instead of the 21st because the latter date was observed as "heatless Monday," so designated by Fuel Administrator Garfield in order to conserve coal. It was also decided to meet on Tuesday nights during the period of field conservation.

Election of officers, for the ensuing year, resulted in the choice of last year's personnel.

During the year, the following were elected as new members: T. R. Daddow, J. G. Rigney, W. L. Bollinger, Norman H. Rich.

On Jan. 14th, the club held its first meeting of 1919.

To the membership rolls, during the year, was added the name of Dr. H. H. Stewart.

At the meeting of Oct. 2nd, Martin F. Duffy gave the club an interesting account of his experience as a Knights of Columbus worker, among the soldiers.

The year 1920 was started with a meeting held on January 8th.

An entirely new roster of officers was elected as follows: Dr. G. R. S. Corson, Pres.; J. W. Fox, Vice Pres.; Dr. H. J. Herbein, Secy -Treas.

Those elected to membership, during the year, were: Dr. Walter A. Bacon, N. G. Parke, H. I. Silliman, W. C. Howell, Prof. E. K. Diehl.

The first meeting of 1921 was on Jan. 14th. At the meeting of Feb. 11th, Daniel Duffy was designated as a special committee to telegraph the Speaker of the House of Representatives, at Harrisburg, voicing the sentiment of the Club as being opposed to "raising the age limit for work" by changing the age of employment from 16 to 18 years.

The Club had a planked shad supper on April 29th served at a local restaurant.

The election for the ensuing year resulted in the choice of the old roster of officers.

During the meeting of Nov. 9th, a letter was forwarded to the Disarmament Conference, at Washington, D. C., voicing the sentiment of the Club as in favor and desirous of world peace.

On Jan. 11th, the initial meeting of 1922 was held. Officers, for the ensuing year, were elected as follows: J. W. Fox, Pres.; G. A. Berner, Vice Pres.; T. R. Daddow, Secy.-Treas.

New members elected were: H. W. Brink, H. A. Reber, A. C. Silvius, W. H. Hudson, Robert A. Riley, Thomas H. Beddall, Harold O. Knapp, C. B. Tyson.

Starting the year 1923, the Club met on January 3rd.

Elected as a new member was Ed. S. Rudloff.

The Club opened 1924 most auspiciously with a meeting Jan. 2.

A dinner was enjoyed at the quarters of the Country Club, on February 20th, which was reported as a big success.

Officers, as follows, were elected: Geo. H. Kaercher, Pres.; J. L. Channell, Vice Pres.; and G. T. Burd, Secy.

Dr. G. R. S. Corson, a former member of the Club, died during the early part of June. Resolutions were adopted.

The annual "wash" was held at the farm of T. R. Daddow, down-country, on June 26th. H. A. Reber, Bertram Davis, U. H. Nuss were elected members.

At the meeting of Aug. 5th, the Club passed resolutions of regret at the death of Daniel Duffy, the then only associate member and one of the two original members who remained active in the work, covering a period of 30 years.

At the inauguration of 1925 the first meeting was held on Jan. 7th. Officers as follows were elected: J. L. N. Channell, Pres.; G. A. Berner, Vice Pres.; G. T. Burd, Secy.-Treas.

On Nov. 18th the Club and the Philanthropic Society attended a lecture, given by Baird Halberstadt, in the P. & R. C. & I. Co.'s auditorium, on "Geology of Schuylkill County and Formation of Coal in the United States."

On Jan. 6th, the initial meeting of 1926 was held. Last year's roster of officers was re-elected.

At the meeting of Oct. 6th, resolutions were adopted on the death of Wm. M. Faussett, Esq., long a member of the Club.

On Dec. 6th, the Club and Daughters of the American Revolution attended a lecture given by Rev. W. Warren Giles, on "Back to the Republic," given in the auditorium of the P. & R. C. & I. Co.

It was on Jan. 5th, that the first meeting of 1927 was held.

Members elected during the year were: H. F. Sheridan, Homer R. Knapp, Franklin M. Moser, W. G. Long. The annual election resulted: G. A. Berner, Pres.; Norman H. Rich, Vice Pres.; G. T. Burd; Secy.-Treas. Norman H. Rich, as a delegate, attended the national Coal Conference, at Mt. Carmel, during November.

The club staged its first meeting, of 1928, on Jan. 19th. At the meeting of Feb. 2nd, cognizance was taken of the fact that John Schrope, Schuylkill Countian, had received a prize for farming, regarded as "an unusual honor upon our county which is not considered a farming county."

New members were elected, during the year, as follows: Councilman John B. Bowman, Chas. Strange, Julian F. Ulmer. The annual outing was held at Deer Lake on July 26th.

The year 1929 was started by the Club with a meeting held on Jan. 14th.

At the May meeting the former officers were elected to succeed themselves.

During the year there were elected as new members, F. W. Henry, Dr. Adolph Neupauer, Ralph W. Deitrich, Harold L. Paul, Geo. C. Bensinger.

On Jan. 3rd the first meeting of 1930, was held. Dr. H. J. Herbein was chosen treasurer to succeed Julian F. Ulmer who had resigned.

Officers to serve during the ensuing year were elected as follows: U. H. Nuss, Pres.; H. R. Knapp, Vice Pres.; G. T. Burd, Secy.; Dr. H. J. Herbein, Treas. The annual outing was conducted at Deer Lake. As new members there were elected: LeRoy M. Spannuth, A. C. Silvius, Dr. A. J. Knauss, Chas. G. Fromme.

The club held its first meeting of 1931 on Jan. 2nd. A. C. Silvius, G. T. Burd and John B. Bowman were appointed a standing committee to use their best efforts toward securing state-owned forests for Schuylkill County, at the meeting of Feb. 27th.

Officers were elected as follows: U. H. Nuss, Pres.; B. S. Simonds, Vice Pres.; G. T. Burd, Secy.; H. J. Herbein, Treas.

The 37th annual "wash" of the Club was held at Deer Lake, on July 16th. New members elected were: Jos. B. Schablein, Maynard Stapleton. Jan. 4th marked the opening of the year 1932. The following officers were elected: Dr. Adolph Neupauer, Pres.; Prof. B. S. Simonds, Vice Pres.; G. T. Burd, Secy.; Dr. H. J. Herbein, Treas. The club had an outing at Deer Lake on Oct. 24th.

Regret was expressed by the members, at the meeting of Dec. 5th, because of the death of Rev. F. W. Longinus, who was rector of St. John's Catholic Church for more than 60 years, and that of Wm. E. Quinlin, president of the Union Bank and Trust Co.

On Jan. 2nd the Club held the first meeting in 1933.

The Club held a turkey banquet in the Y. M. C. A. Cafeteria on Jan. 23rd.

At the meeting of March 6th, the members extended condolence to their secretary, G. T. Burd, because of the death of his wife. The officers of the previous year were re-elected.

As new members the following were added to the roll: Fred. W. Biltz, Lewis H. Warmkessel, W. G. Swyer, Dr. William E. Walton.

On July 27th, the Club held an outing at Stone Mountain Manor in Wayne Township.

Resolutions of regret were passed, at the meeting of Oct. 2nd, on the death of former president, Ulysses H. Nuss.

The year 1934 was inaugurated with a meeting on Jan. 8th.

After the lapse of 44 years, it is surprising to note that the major part of those who were associated with this organization, are still active in the affairs of the community.

Atty. George Striegel, who was the organizer and founder of the club, calling the first meeting for institution in the old Americus Democratic Club rooms has been a practitioner at the Schuylkill County Bar through all of this period of nearly a half century. He has been prominent in Democratic politics, ever since, as he was in the early days when he was a member of the Americus Club, having served as Democratic County Chairman and also was an aspirant, on his party ticket, for various offices. During a long tenure he functioned as United States Commissioner, with jurisdiction over Schuylkill County.

It is interesting to state, too, that other clubs, some at distant points, whose objects were educational, as much in providing information as for developing speakers for general rostrum activities, have been organized and patterned after the Pottsville Midwinter Educational Club, the first organization of the kind, in this section of the state.

Such has always been its prestige that most of the members enrolled were admitted upon their earnest desire to affiliate with the high type of associations guaranteed by membership. The Club's rolls show membership on the part of men who have served in the halls of Congress, State Legislature, on the Bench, in the general activities of jurisprudence, in journalism, locally and at distant points, and those who have gained prominence in every avenue of endeavor, as professional and business men, artists, musicians, poets, stage exponents and in many other lines.

Union Bank and Trust Co. 38 Years Old

(From "Pottsville Republican"-"Morning Paper," June 18-19, 1934)

The Union Bank and Trust Co.'s well appointed home occupies the desirable site at the northwestern corner of Centre and Mahantongo Sts., in the heart of the city. It was originally known as the Union Safe Deposit Bank, and was established during 1896. The new bank opened its doors to the general public, for the transaction of business, during the week of Apr. 18th, a little more than 38 years ago.

The original bank was located at the southwest corner of Centre and Norwegian Sts., in the old Mountain City Building, which was used for a number of years by the officials and clerks of the pay department of the P. & R. C. & I. Co.

Promoters of the fiduciary institution took up the charter of the old Mechanics' Safe Deposit Bank, which was incorporated, under the laws of Penna., in 1852. The charter is perpetual, but to this was granted special privileges from time to time, by Acts of Assembly.

Antecedents to the incorporation of the Union Bank and Trust Co. were "The Pottsville Mutual and Joint Stock Life Insurance Co. of Schuylkill Co.," with the right of perpetual succession. approved Apr. 21, 1852. This was changed to the Pottsville Life Insurance and Trust Co., by the Act of May 8, 1855. The Act of Feb. 26, 1869, incorporated the Security Safe Deposit, Trust and Guarantee Co. The name of the Pottsville Life Insurance and Trust Co. was changed to the Mechanics Safe Deposit Bank, on Mar. 23, 1874.

On Nov. 22, 1923, the bank's capital was increased from $100,000 to $150,000. On July 17, 1919, the title was finally changed to the Union Bank and Trust Co.

The incorporators of the Pottsville Mutual and Joint Stock Life Insurance Co. were: Benj. T. Taylor, Saml. Sillyman, Jas. Sillyman, Wm. Wolff, John N. Wagonseller, C. J. Frey, Wm. Pollack, Jas. M. Beatty, Wm. Mortimer, Jr., F. W. Hughes, Jas. H. Campbell, John C. Neville, Nathan Evans, Michael Cochran, Bernard Reilly, Chas. W. Pitman, Edw. Yardley, John G. Brown, John F. Whitney, John W. Webber, Solomon Foster. Richard Lee, Daniel Krebs and Chas. W. Taylor.

At the time of the establishment of the Union Safe Deposit Bank, the Mechanics' Safe Deposit Bank, which was located on the west side of Centre, between Market and Norwegian Sts., had been defunct for some years. The new banking institution occupied quarters which were, at the time, regarded as admirably adapted for the officials and counting room force.

The bank started its career with the following officers and employes: Hon. Chas. F. King, prominent contractor, who had served in the Penna. State Senate as a representative of the upper district, Schuylkill County, then being divided into the 29th and 30th districts, as the first pres.; Wm. L. Allen, secy.; Chas. I. Loeser, treas. and cashier; Geo. J. Wadlinger, Esq., title and trust officer; Chas. H. Kline, original teller, and Frank Jos. Freiler, clerk.

Under the following prominent citizens of the community, who constituted the personnel of the board of directors, the new bank thrived

and prospered from its very start: Chas. F. King, who, in addition to his contracting business, was a director of the Union National Bank at Mahanoy City, his residential town before he came to Pottsville to make his home on W. Mahantongo St.; J. M. Harris, manager of the Tilt Silk Mill, one of the plants of the Phoenix Silk Co.; L. W. Weissinger, who conducted the Pottsville Stock Yards; Philip Brenneman, Jr., who ran a successful furniture store; P. J. Ferguson, of Shenandoah, president of the First National Bank of that town; Frank Esterly, of Esterly Bros., Centre St. hardware merchants; Dr. Daniel Dechert, of Cressona, practicing physician and county treasurer.

Lewis P. Grant, general contractor, who paved Centre St. with Belgian blocks; Wm. Buechley, Sr., president of the Pottsville Lumber Co.; Harrison Ball, of Mahanoy City, lumber dealer and director of the Union National Bank, of the north-of-the-mountain town; Wm. G. Hoeffer, retired baker and real estate owner; Wm. L. Allan, of Thomas G. Allan & Sons, who conducted the Merchants' Hotel, which was located at the corner now occupied by the Necho Allen Hotel; Wm. Brazier, former member of the Borough Council and superintendent of the rolling mill plant, at Fishbach, of the Pottsville Iron and Steel Co.; and Samuel Keiter, formerly of St. Clair, of the firm of Keiter & Rishel, wholesale grocers.

In 1913, before the city's greatest fire, which swept the entire block, bounded by Centre, Norwegian, Second and Mahantongo Sts., causing property and other damage which approached close to a million dollars, the home of the banking institution was changed to the pretentious building, in which it now does business, erected at a cost of nearly $100,000. It covers the site of the building in which the late Henry Rosengarten conducted a green grocery business, for many years.

In later time, after the closing of his store, it became the place of business of Chas. Wildermuth, news dealer and tobacconist. During the period that the latter carried on business at the corner, the Beddalls erected a new office and business building, and he occupied the first floor up to the time when the property was purchased by the officials of the bank and the latter's handsome new home was built.

It was a remarkable fact that, while the great, devastating fire of 1914 destroyed the property in the doomed square the year following the completion of the bank building, the latter survived the destructive conflagration, little damage having been done to it.

Business was done by the institution under its original name, Union Safe Deposit Bank, for more than eleven years. Then, on Nov. 20, 1923, the stockholders changed the name to the present Union Bank and Trust Co.

J. M. Harris succeeded Mr. King, who, in turn, was succeeded by Jas. J. Moran, Esq., a prominent member of the Schuylkill County Bar, Wm. J. Schmidt, on May 22, 1925, who was vice president up to that time, was advanced to president. Wm. E. Quinlin succeeded to the vacant vice presidency.

President Schmidt met fatal injury when he was struck by an automobile which mounted the curb and crashed into him as he stood talking to friends in front of the doors of the bank. After his death, Wm. E. Quinlin, superintendent of the Pottsville District, for the Prudential Life Insurance Co., was

elected president. He succumbed to an illness after he had served a comparatively short time. The deaths of both presidents came within a year of each other.

Frank W. Leib was chosen to fill the presidency after the death of Mr. Quinlin and is at present serving the bank faithfully, intelligently and well. Previously he was postmaster of Pottsville having been commissioned under the Taft Administration. He also was the first treasurer, after Pottsville adopted city charter, serving four consecutive terms. He was further honored by Council who chose him as city assessor, which office he still holds having had a tenure of several terms.

Chas. H. Kline, succeeded Chas. I. Loeser, the first cashier, holding that responsible berth for some years. Then E. S. Rudloff, of Tamaqua, on Aug. 3, 1922, was chosen to succeed him.

Geo. L. Hill, of Lansford, the present cashier, on April 1, 1929 was elected to succeed Mr. Rudloff, who located at Englewood, N. J.

President Leib and Cashier Hill have associated with them the following official force: Geo. R. Moll, Vice Pres.; Charles Haussmann, Dr. Geo. Kieffer, of Philadelphia, who represents the bank holdings of the King Estate; Ed. J. Miller, Ed. S. Fernsler, Vincent J. Dalton, Esq., of Schuylkill Haven; Jas. Campion, of Heckscherville; and John P. Ryon, members of the board of directors; LeRoy Spannuth, assistant cashier; Richard L. Jones, Jr., Wm. Schick and Edw. P. Krieg, tellers; Misses Hattie Davenport, of St. Clair, and Ruth Cooper, clerks; Hon. Chas. E. Berger, solicitor.

Penna. National Bank Dates Back to 1864

(From "Pottsville Republican"-"Morning Paper," June 19, 1934)

The institution from which the Pennsylvania National Bank had its origin came into existence at a meeting of the Corporation of the National Bank of Pennsylvania which was held on June 18, 1864, at the office of the Miners' Life Insurance and Trust Co.

This organization flourished for more than two years, its last obligation having been discharged on Nov. 26, 1866. It was succeeded by the Pennsylvania National Bank, of Pennsylvania, which had its actual birth on Sept. 18, 1866. The bank did not organize as a national institution but it was placed under that category of fiduciary institutions some years later.

The original capital was $100,000. During July, 1875, this was doubled and the present figures are still $200,000. Jacob Huntzinger, as chairman of the organization meeting, and Chas. H. Dengler the secretary, were appointed a committee to solicit stock.

When the bank started business during the latter part of 1866, J. Albert Huntzinger was its first president and Chas. H. Dengler the initial cashier.

There were eight incorporators as follows: J. Albert Huntzinger, Chas. H. Dengler, Theo. F. Toussaint, Jacob Deibert, Silas Ball, Wm. Huntzinger, Benj. H. Cumming and W. H. Werner. The first board of directors were: Messrs. Huntzinger, Dengler, Toussaint, Deibert and Cumming.

The original president and cashier served the bank, from 1866 to 1871, when Chas. H. Dengler was advanced to president. His vacated position, as cashier, was filled by W. P. Ryon. In 1873 there was another change when Riollay F. Lee was made president and Jos. Dengler, cashier.

In 1876, Daniel L. Krebs, who was Pottsville borough clerk for many years, until succeeded by G. A. Berner, Esq., in 1890, was named as president after Riollay F. Lee died on Nov. 9, 1891. The vacancy, as cashier, was filled by the selection of David H. Seibert who served in that capacity for a number of years. Mr. Krebs' tenure was a brief one, John W. Ryon, Esq., after his death, being made president during the early part of Nov. 1891.

President Ryon and Cashier Seibert were at the head of the bank's affairs, together, for ten years. On March 9, 1901, after the death of Mr. Ryon, there was another vacancy as cashier created by the choice of Mr. Seibert for president on March 19th. Chas. T. Brown was then chosen cashier and served until his death occurring on Aug. 22nd, 1930.

On May 26, 1914, after the death of Mr. Seibert, Frank D. Yuengling was made president on Jan. 19th and is still serving in that capacity. Following the demise of Mr. Brown, the board of directors chose Edw. M. Burgan as cashier, on Sept. 10, 1920, and he is still giving faithful and loyal service as such.

On Dec. 17, 1914, when the square was swept by the fire the original bank building was completely destroyed. The officers, however, were fortunate to save the books, valu-

able papers, money, etc., from the flames.

Rising Phoenix-like, from the embers, the present handsome new structure replaced it. The building was erected covering the site of the destroyed structure as well as an additional eight feet of frontage, adjoining the original plot, purchased from Mrs. C. W. Mortimer, widow of the public-spirited merchant, who, for many years, was engaged in the hat and gents' furnishing business.

This afforded a full frontage of 38 feet. The former bank had a 30-foot front. This frontage embraced former Nos. 15½, 17 and 19.

In depth the site is 90 feet in length running back to the alley where stood the old Academy of Music which was also destroyed by the great fire.

The cornerstone, for the present building, was laid on June 18, 1915. The new bank structure substantially built, was complete during 1916.

The Pennsylvania National Bank is regarded as one of the wealthiest in the upper part of the state.

On March 14, 1916, the new bank was occupied. While the new building was under construction, the business of the fiduciary institution was transacted at temporary quarters in the Bright building, on S. Centre St.

The present officials of the Pennsylvania National Bank are: Frank D. Yuengling, Pres.; Van Dusen Rickert, Vice Pres.; Jesse W. Fleet, Vice Pres.; Edw. M. Burgan, Cashier; Darwin S. Harter, Trust Officer and Assistant Cashier; and Lawrence F. Elison, Assistant Cashier.

The Board of Directors comprise: Frank D. Yuengling, Van Dusen Rickert, Jesse W. Fleet, Clinton D. Rishel, Henry Sheafer, Edmund S. Brennan, J. Robert Bazley, Andrew S. Kimmel and Owen L. Underwood. C. Frank Muehlhof, Esq., is Solicitor.

The counting house employees are: Misses Catherine S. Hazzard, Rebecca Murphy, Reta D. Bossler, Margaret Huff and Violet P. Tomaine, also LeRoy Shollenberger, Albert Felsburg and Harold Orf.

The statement of the Bank, issued on March 5, 1934, showed total assets of $3,794,090.83; liabilities, $3,-794,090.83; and investments and cash, of the trust department, aggregating $806,083.53.

Trinity Lutheran Church 100 Years Old

(From "Pottsville Republican"-"Morning Paper," June 19-25, 1934)

The first Lutheran Church in Pottsville was organized in the year 1834. Previous to the organization of the congregation, however, the Lutherans received the administration of the Word and Sacraments by ministers who came from the lower part of the county, including Orwigsburg and from Berks County.

Rev. W. Mennig received and accepted a call to this newly organized congregation on June 29th of the same year, 1834. In a few years, in connection with the members of the German Reformed congregation, it was decided to erect a church building. This building occupied the site of the present Trinity Lutheran Church. The cornerstone was laid with the usual ceremonies on June 18, 1837, and on Oct. 8 and 9th of the same year, it was consecrated and was named the Emanuel Lutheran Church. This building stood until the year of 1867. In the year 1852, the German Reformed members decided to erect their own church building and withdrew. In 1847 Rev. D. Steck organized an English congregation from that portion of the congregation that could not well understand the German language.

In 1850, another separation occurred. It seems that Emanuel's Church was affected by the general revivalistic movement that spread over the country at that time. The more conservative Lutherans could not countenance such demonstrations and consequently withdrew and organized a new congregation. This congregation was served for a short time by Rev. Dr. C. F. Nanz. In 1851, Rev. F. Walz was elected pastor and served until 1853, when Rev. J. Ehrhart was chosen as his successor. This congregation worshipped for a short time in a small building on Second St., where the Good Intent Fire Co. now stands and also in the building where Trinity Lutheran Church now stands.

During all these years, Rev. Mennig continued as pastor of Emanuel Church. In 1859, however, he received a call from St. Paul's Church, Allentown. His successor was Rev. F. W. Lampe, who served three years and was succeeded by Rev. W. Hoppe, who served the congregation one year. At this time, the two congregations, Zion's and Emanuel's more and more felt the propriety of uniting again. Accordingly on July 17, 1864, a meeting of both congregations was held, at which time it was unanimously resolved to unite. These two congregations, after a separation of 16 years, became one and formed the new foundation of the present large and influential Trinity Lutheran Church, which name they adopted.

Rev. J. Ehrhart served the church for about one year after the congregations were united and resigned in the fall of 1865. In the spring of 1866, Rev. G. A. Hinterleitner of Kutztown, accepted the call to be pastor of the church. The brick church, the front of which was changed in order to look like the new chapel, was built in 1868, and an addition to the rear was made during the seventies.

Rev. J. H. Umbenhen succeeded Rev. Hinterleitner, first coming here as an assistant to the aged pastor, who became pastor Emeritus Jan. 1, 1893 and died Mar. 13, 1901. Rev. Umbenhen became pastor on Dec. 14th, 1889. He observed the 36th anniversary of his pastorate in the spring of 1925, and during that

time held the honor of baptizing, marrying and ofttimes burying the same person of his congregation. Sept. 22, 1925, Dr. Umbenhen died very suddenly, and his death was a complete shock to the community. His death occurred just two days after elaborate services had been held in Trinity Lutheran Church, in the dedication of the new $17,000 Moller organ. Dr. C. L. Fry, of Mt. Airy, Phila., a personal friend of the late pastor's officiated at Trinity Lutheran services, until the call to Rev. E. W. Weber was extended. Although exact details are lacking, it was closely estimated by Rev. Umbenhen just before his death, that he had baptized close to 3,000 children and had performed about 1,200 marriages.

March 7, 1910, the Church Council resolved to take steps to erect a suitable S. S. building. In July, 1907, Rev. Umbenhen met with the congregation, and proposed plans were fully talked over regarding the erection of a handsome Sunday School chapel, the estimated cost to be between $30,000 and $40,000. In 1910, the foundation of the present structure was started and by Nov. 22, 1910, the foundation was finished. In the spring of 1911, work on the building proper was started. On May 21st, 1911, services in connection with the cornerstone laying of the large edifice were held, and the address was delivered by Dr. J. C. Kunzman, Supt. of English Home Missions of the Lutheran Church of the United States.

The building was in charge of the following committee: W. F. Weber, A. W. Seltzer, G. A. Berner, C. A. Ost and Louis Miller. The architect was A. A. Richter of Lebanon and the contractor Gordon Nagle of Cressona. The material used was Penna. white marble, which was also used in facing the front of the old church. The steeple was removed from the old church building and the bells hung in the tower of the new building. The capacity of the new building was to be about 1,500. Dedication services were held Sunday, Feb. 18th, 1912, with the following speakers: Rev. P. J. Hoh, D. D., Rev. J. C. Kunzman, D. D., Rev. J. Fry, D. D., and Dr. T. E. Schmauk. The designs on the windows are "The Good Shepherd," "The Annunciation," and "The Visit of the Wise Men."

Another special event was recorded in Trinity Lutheran Church history Sunday, Aug. 15, 1926, when two beautiful church windows were dedicated in honor of the departed pastor, Rev. J. H. Umbenhen. The windows, one on either side of the auditorium, are taken from Hohman's version of Christ, the one as Christ the Shepherd and the other Christ knocking on the door. Both are of similar design and coloring, and will serve as a constant reminder of him who served his congregation faithfully for many years. They were installed by the members of the Frauen Verein Society who had been bequeathed a certain sum of money some years ago by Mr. Yuengling, to be used as they saw fit. Wm. Weber and Jas. Lennox, members of the church council, unveiled the windows.

Rev. Emil W. Weber, on Nov. 24th, 1925, at that time a Chaplain in the U. S. Army, was unanimously appointed as the next pastor of Trinity Lutheran Church, at a large meeting of the congregation, held in the S. S. chapel. He resigned his commission on Dec. 18th, 1925, accepted the call to the local church, and began his parish work by preaching the Christmas Day sermons on Dec. 25, 1925.

Pastor Weber was born in Tompkinsville, Staten Island, N. Y., Sept. 6, 1884. He attended the public schools of Staten Island, graduated from Wagner College in 1904, the Lutheran Theological Seminary, Mt. Airy, Phila., in 1907, and took post graduate work at the University of Leipsic and Erlangen, Germany. He was ordained to the Gospel Ministry on Sept. 14, 1908, by the Ministerium of Penna., called to St. John's Lutheran Church, Bridgeton, N. J., 1908; to the Lutheran Church of the Redeemer, Yonkers, N. Y., 1913; and accepted a commission in the United States Army as Chaplain in 1917.

Extensive services in honor of pastor Weber's 25th anniversary of his ordination were held Sunday, Nov. 19th, 1933, at which the Rev. E. P. Pfatteicher, D. D., PhD., LLD., president of the Ministerium of Penna., and Rev. A. Chas. R. Keiter, D. D., pastor of the Salem Lutheran Church, Lebanon were the speakers. Many of the pastors and members of their congregations of the Pottsville Conference were represented.

Sunday School History

G. A. Berner who was superintendent of Trinity's Sunday School for many years, gives his history of the school as follows: The first authoritative record of the establishment of a S. S. of the Lutheran Church was in the year 1842.

The Lutherans were made up of German and English families, and the Sunday School organized sought to provide for both languages in the conduct of the School, for they elected an English superintendent and a German one, and the exercises were conducted in both languages.

The first authoritative record of Immanuel's S. S. dates from 1853, showing the two superintendents functioning until 1864, at which time the Zion's Lutheran congregation came back to the Immanuel congregation, having been separated since 1850. During those ten years the English superintendents were: Henry Zimmerman, 1854-55, 1859-60; F. B. Huntzinger, 1856; Rev. W. G. Minnig, 1857; John DeFrehn, 1858; D. L. Krebs, 1861-62-63. The German superintendents for those years were: Daniel Witman, 1854-55-56-57-58-59; John Reiff, 1860; and Jacob Kohler, 1860-61-62, and John J. Kopp, 1863.

In 1850, the distinctly German element seceded from Immanuel's congregation and formed a congregation of their own under the name of Zion's Evangelical German Lutheran congregation. While these members were still with Immanuel's congregation, they evidently carried with them, the Sunday School idea, so that after the formation of their own congregation, their church council passed a resolution on Nov. 19, 1851, to appoint a committee to consider the question of forming a Sunday School, which committee later reported that to form a Sunday School would cost about $7.50. They evidently carried on their Sunday School in the German language and exercised the strictest discipline, for in 1852 they arranged that two of the church council be always assigned to attend the sessions of the School to see that proper order and decorum be observed and that no other language be taught or spoken. Among the names connected with this school, are: D. G. Yuengling, John Doeble, Louis Voshage, John C. Conrad, Sr., J. G. Brown, Charles Zabel, and Louis Stoffregen.

On Feb. 13, 1857, an elaborate constitution was adopted for the operation of the school. This was a distinctly German church and Sun-

day School, and the purpose of the organization of the Teacher's Asso.. was contained in an article as follows: "To instruct the children and young people entrusted to them in the Holy Scriptures, to acquaint them with the church and the language, to practice them in the singing of the church melodies and hymns so as to prepare them for their confirmation instruction and to take part in the church services. The present officers are: Pres., William Berner; Supt., Charles Marzlin; Secy., William Haertner; Treas., John Henninger; Deacon, William Hoefer."

The records of the superintendents of this Sunday School show Charles Marzlin in 1857; Otto Schnurr in 1859; Henry Loechel in 1860; Herman Krauth in 1861-62; and William Hoefer in 1863-64.

In 1864, the Zions' congregation re-united with the Immanuel congregation, but from all accounts they not only came back to the parent congregation but brought with them their own ideas of service and language, and in the Sunday School, there was no longer any proviso for the German and English teaching as was the case with Immanuel's congregation up to this time, and no longer was there an English and a German superintendent.

W. F. Scheerer was elected Supt., prior to 1894, and re-elected in 1895 and 1896. In 1897, G. A. Berner was elected without any solicitation on his part, and he felt called upon to decline the election. The Superintendency of the School was conducted thereafter by the president of the Teachers' Asso., A. W. Schalck. In January 1898, on the election of officers, the superintendency was again left open and the same procedure followed in that year, but in January, 1899, Mr. Berner was again elected and this time he accepted and continued in office until 1922.

The only division of the school up to this time, 1894, consisted of the main school and the younger children which was classed as the Infants' school Under the prosperous condition of the school the Infants' school room was soon reported to be too small and provision had to be made for more room. Some of this room was provided by taking out some of the older scholars and by removing chairs and supplying benches, and on May 17, 1896, the Infants' school was taken up into the church room for a time, and again in 1900 and on Dec. 4, 1902 the Infants' school was put into the church room to stay there until Christmas and afterward. In the beginning, the instruction in that school was mainly to teach the beginning of the German language and the A. B. C. cards, and spelling of syllables in the German language was very much in evidence, but with the progress of time and events this had to be changed to a great extent. The assistant of Mrs. Krause, the superintendent, in 1899 was Miss Laura Seltzer, who in January, 1901, on account of illness, was succeeded by Mrs. Lennig. With the change and activity of the assistants the instruction in the school was more and more in the English language and related more and more to religious subjects.

Provision was made in Feb. 1908, for the division of the Infants' school, which is called the Primary, by organizing a Beginners' Dept., which consisted of children up to six years of age. To separate the Children's department from the main school with the restricted room a glass partition was built in the one end of the Sunday School, which divided this department from the main school. With the building

of the S. S. chapel in 1911, provision was further made to meet the Sunday School requirement by providing for a Junior Department so that the three Children's departments were provided for and as now existing namely, Junior, Primary and Beginners.

Under the administration of Mr. Berner, the Sunday School grew rapidly, and as was seen, provision had to be made for the enlarged school of the Infants' department, so that provision now had to be made for additional room for the main school, and this was provided by the division of the school in Feb. 1903, whereby seventeen of the advanced classes were given permanent quarters in the church room and known as Department "A", for which department D. W. Miller was elected as an assistant superintendent. This department still continued when the new Sunday School chapel was built, although the necessity for a separate Supt. no longer existed.

On Nov. 5, 1903, the church council announced the purchase of the property adjoining the church on the South, and with that announcement in the teachers' meeting, it was reported that the class of Miss Emma Weber had $50 towards the cost, she having paid the first monies, namely, $10, as early as Feb. 5, 1903, toward the building fund. The class of Miss Laura Muehlhof reported $13, and there was $60 in the treasury for the same purpose. With the purchase of that adjoining property there still remained a most desirable property to the south, extending to Arch St., and on Sept. 10, 1904, the teachers' meeting appointed a committee of five to confer with the church council about the purchase of that corner lot. Jan. 3, 1907, the church council was urged to buy the corner lot, the Sunday School pledging their help, and a month afterward the lot was reported purchased, and the result of these enlargements and purchases was seen in the magnificent chapel which now adorns the site.

As regards the entertainment and social features of the school, there was continued the usual Christmas exercises and gifts and the holding of picnics in the summer. It was the practice for a long time at Christmas time to give every person in the school a box of candy, but in 1905 this practice was restricted only to the children in the Infants' Dept., and no gifts to the main school, but in 1897, after considerable negotiations with the publishers, every scholar was given a Sunday School hymn book. In the beginning the Sunday School picnics were held in Deer Park or Bulls Head. This was probably due to the fact that the ground was owned by D. G. Yuengling who was active in the church affairs. It was the custom in those days to meet at the school and march out in a body, headed by a banner indicating the church and the school. This meant a walk of about a mile and a half. The youngest children were carried in wagons to the picnic grounds. The next spot chosen for the picnics, was Railway Park, where they were held for many years, but about the year 1901, Adamsdale park became very prominent, and the picnics were held there.

The Frauen Verein

The Frauen Verein, the oldest society in the church, whose object is the care of the poor of the church was organized about 1868. In 1888 Mrs. Jacob Krauss was elected president and served in that capacity until 1922, when she was honorary president until the time of her death. Mrs. Henry Loechel was vice president, and Mrs. F. L. Weber, treasurer, from 1888 until 1898. Rev. G. A. Hinterleitner acted as secretary.

Mrs. Wm. Hoefer was secretary from 1898 until 1912; Mrs. A. W. Seltzer, treasurer from 1905 until 1910; Mrs. Wm. Doebler, treas., from 1910 until 1922; Mrs. Leonard Schuettler, secy., 1912 to 1929; Mrs. C. F. Hay, vice-pres., 1920-22, and treasurers from that time to present; Mrs. A. Tremetiere, pres., 1926-27; Mrs. G. A. Zierle, vice-pres., 1926-28; Mrs. E. W. Weber, pres., 1927-28; Mrs. Christ Niece, pres., 1928-32; Mrs. Chas. Bader, vice-pres., 1928-32; Mrs. W. Boltz, secy., 1930-32. The present officers are: Mrs. Chas. Bader, pres.; Miss Carrie Krauss, vice-pres.; Mrs. Chas. Yaag, secy.; Mrs. Chas. Hay, treas. These officers were re-elected for another term in January 1934.

The following are the total of memberships according to records available, according to years: 1888—87 members; 1898—77; 1905—80; 1910—91; 1920—127; 1926—154; 1928—176; 1932—166; 1933—167.

Keeping up with the original and early custom, the Frauen Verein meets the first Thursday afternoon of each month, and after going over their business matters, have a "Koffee Klotch".

Missionary Society

The Woman's Missionary Society was organized in 1897 by Mrs. Henry Loechel, now deceased. For some years it combined its meeting with the Frauen Verein, but kept its offerings separate for Missionary purposes. It became an independent society in the year 1905, when Rev. Karl Karsch of Minersville organized the local Woman's Home and Foreign Missionary societies of the Pottsville Conference. At this meeting Mrs. Alice Foster, (formerly Alice Seltzer) was elected recording secretary. The officers of the Pottsville society at this time were: Rev. Umbenhen, pres.; Mrs. J. H. Umbenhen, secy.; Mrs. Fred Portz, (now deceased), treas.

In 1910, Mrs. John Hock was elected president and served until 1931. Mrs. Hock was instrumental in keeping the organization active in all those years, increasing its membership, and also its good work. She is now Honorary Pres., of the present society. Among the persons who have served the organization since its beginning were: Mrs. Umbenhen, Mrs. Chas. Sunday, Miss Annie Pfizenmaier, Miss Bessie Rosengarten, active members, and the following now deceased: Mrs. Fred Portz, Sr., Mrs. Christ Schum and Miss Addie Rosengarten.

The society supports a parish in Japan and many home and foreign Lutheran activities. It has 90 members at the present time, and the following officers are serving: Pres., Mrs. Alice Foster; Vice-Pres., Mrs. E. W. Weber; Second Vice-Pres., Mrs. Emma Schick; Secy., Miss Annie Pfizenmaier, and Treas.. Miss Bessie Rosengarten.

The Home Department

To further meet the present day advanced S. S. programs a Home Department was organized in May, 1903, with Miss Addie Rosengarten as superintendent. She was assisted by Mrs. John Hock, who took over the entire work at the death of Miss Rosengarten. An important factor of this department was manifest during the progress of providing for the funds for an enlarged building and school, so that as early as January, 1904, soon after the organization of the department, all monies collected from the Home Dept., fund were set aside to be applied to the building improvement fund.

Mrs. Hock officiated as Supt. until 1930, when at her resignation, the work was taken over by Mrs. Clarence Starr, who held the office for two years. Mrs. Harry Miller is now in charge.

The purpose of the organization, was to interest those shutins of the congregation, or anyone who might

be interested in S. S. work, distribute the lesson books to them, and if possible urge them to become members of the School. The department had as high as 185 members at one time, and many additions to the S. S. membership were made in this manner. Funds were received through an envelope system, distributed to those visited. Present members are still actively engaged in this particular work.

The Cradle Roll

To complete the full scheme of the S. S. organization by providing for a Home Department a Cradle Roll was begun on April 7, 1904, with Mrs. John Hock, (nee Lennig) in charge. Mrs. Hock was assisted by her daughter, Miss Carrie, now Mrs. Parnell. She was succeeded in the work of carrying on this organization by Mrs. D. W. Kaercher, and Mrs. Wm. Knight, mother of Dr. Knight, and after the resignation of the latter owing to ill health, carried on the work assisted by her sister Miss Helen Krebs, who has been Supt. of the Cradle Roll since 1917.

At present there are 157 children listed on the Roll. They are kept on the Roll, which is considered a part of the Sunday School until four years of age, or until they begin attending sessions in the Beginners' Dept.

The Lutheran Daughters

The Lutheran Daughters is a successor to the Kings' Daughters of Trinity Lutheran Church, organized by Miss Alice Krebs, many years ago, when she enlisted the aid of a class of girls in becoming interested in welfare work among the congregation. The Kings' Daughters were never affiliated with the State organization, however, and about eight years ago, changed their name to the Lutheran Daughters, becoming an independent group.

Mrs. Clarence Meade was president of the Kings' Daughters for many years, and has officiated in that capacity for the Lutheran Daughters. Mrs. Geo. Ryon, Jr., is vice-pres., and Mrs. Franklin Miller, secy. and treas. There are thirteen members, as follows: Miss Laura Blankenhorn, Mrs. Carl Burkhardt, Mrs. Donald Dolbin, Mrs. Chas. Emhardt, Mrs. Clarence Yocum, Mrs. Franklin Miller, Mrs. G. W. Wadlinger, Miss Sara Snyder, Mrs. Howard Flail, Mrs. Wm. Leidich, Mrs. Clarence Meade, Mrs. Arthur Miller, Miss Emma Kohler and Mrs. Geo. Ryon, Jr.

The funds realized through payment of dues, are used to good advantage in doing individual charity work and making donations to worthy local causes.

Luther League

According to data received from some of the early members, no records being available, the Luther League had its beginning about 42 years ago. Rev. J. H. Umbenhen first organized what was then known as the Luther Guild and meetings were conducted weekly. The society was noted for its musical and literary program.

About two years later it became the Luther League, and was affiliated with State and National Luther League. The meetings were devotional, and the members began meeting each Sunday evening.

Men's Brotherhood

On Oct. 21, 1931, at a meeting, with Rev. Weber presiding, it was decided to organize a Men's Brotherhood. The following men were appointed to make arrangements for the next meeting: Chas. Peiffer, Herman Nabholtz, Paul Daubert and Howard Leeland. At the second meeting, Nov. 4, 1931, the following were elected as officers: Pres., G. A. Berner; vice pres., P. D. Daubert; secy., Harry Lynch, and treas., Harvey Hoffman.

The following were present at this meeting: Henry Lavenburg, Chas. P. Peiffer, Ely B. Wright, Fred W. Ost, Herman F. Nabholtz, Jos. P. Hasenauer, Paul D. Daubert, Wm. Schneider, George Fox, Calvin Hein, Jas. Bachert, Thos. W. Williams, Wm. J. Berner, Harry Z. Little, D. W. Miller, W. H. Lynch, C. E. Kendrick, E. Harper Price, Emil A. Brokhof, J. Harry Leib, Clarence L. Koegel, Chas. Haag, Rev. Weber, Howard G. Leeland, G. A. Berner, Wm. M. Moser, Wm. Yaag, Robt. A. Schick, Geo. Meister, Frank B Bower, Roy J. Madara, Chas. E. Kilgus, J. Harry Schuettler, Claire E. Hoffman, Harvey N. Hoffman, Norman Houser, Jos. A. Orf, Clarence Bernd, Adam Artz, Ernest Ehlers, Benj. H. Liddle, Levi Griffiths, Geo. Frantz, Robert Paul, Jas. Lennox.

The present officers of the organization are: Pres., J. Harry Schuettler; vice pres., John Yaag; secy., Paul Daubert, and treas., Harvey Hoffman. The executive committee includes the officers and Jos. Hasenauer, who was elected to serve with them at the January meeting.

The object of the Men's Brotherhood, which now has a membership of close to 100, is, in general, to promote the efficiency and welfare of the congregation through the spiritual, intellectual and social development of the men of the congregation.

Members of the first executive committee included; Benj. Liddle, Chas. Peiffer, Fred Ost, Robt. Schick and Harry Schuettler.

Boys' Brotherhood

The Boys' Brotherhood held meetings for some time, and then disbanded. Through the efforts of the Older Boys' and Girls' Council, with Harry Z. Little at the head, and assisted by Robt. Bader and Frances Sellers, the teen age boys of Trinity Lutheran Sunday School met on Jan. 12, 1921, and organized. The following were the officers who were elected: Pres., Paul Schuettler; vice pres., Geo. Eckenrode; secy., Willard Delph; treas., Wm. Schick.

Usher's League

An Ushers' League was organized on Monday night, Nov. 23, 1915, at 7:30 o'clock, and the late Rev. Umbenhen acted as the chairman. The following officers were then elected: Pres., Paul Ammon; vice pres., Leroy Simpson; secy., Claude Acker, treas., Harry Z. Little. The following were accepted as charter members: Rev. Umbenhen, R. I. Lachman, Herbert Miller, Paul Ammon, Leroy Simpson, Harry Z. Little, Howard Leland, Robert Hoffman and Claude Acker.

The following are ushers who have passed to their final reward: Rev. Umbenhen, John Miller, Lewis Haag, Geo. M. Hoffman, Luther Reber, Leroy Simpson and Henry Trough.

The present officers are: Pres., Wm. F. Rehman; vice pres., F. Earl Gross; secy., Norman Cooper; treas., Edw. P. Krieg; chief head usher, Edw. F. Leffler. Only active charter member, Harry Z. Little. The present membership is 20.

Scout Troop

The first troop charter for Troop 12, Boy Scouts of Lutheran Church, was issued Mar. 11, 1926 for the year ending Mar. 31, 1927. The following served as troop committee: Robt. C. Bader, Harry Little, E. W. Weber, Scoutmaster Harry Ammon, Assistant Scoutmaster Wm. Kendrick.

The second troop charter was issued Mar. 31, 1927, for one year, with the following on the troop committee: E. W. Weber, H. Z. Little, C. E. Kendrick, Harry H.

Hildebrand, Wm. C. Herman, Scoutmaster Geo. G. Heisler, Assistant Wm. Kendrick.

The third troop charter was issued Mar. 31, 1928, for one year, with the following on the troop committee: E. W. Weber, C. E. Kendrick, Harry Koenig, Harry Z. Little, H. S. Drake, Scoutmaster Heisler, Assistant Wm. Kendrick.

The fourth troop charter was issued Mar. 31, 1929, for one year. The troop committee was: E. W. Weber, chairman; Benj. H. Liddle, C. E. Kendrick, H. S. Drake, H. Z. Little, Scoutmaster Harry Koenig, Assistant Wm. Kendrick.

The fifth troop charter was issued Mar. 31, 1930; troop committee consisting of: E. W. Weber, chairman; Wm. H. Leininger, G. E. Schraedley Chas. H. Haag, Herbert Drake, Scoutmaster Koenig, Assistant Wm. Kendrick. Having passed the fifth consecutive year in re-registration, Troop 12 now became a veteran troop.

The sixth troop charter was issued Mar. 31, 1931; troop committee consisting of: E. W. Weber, chairman; C. H. Haag, H. S. Drake, Guy E. Schraedley, Jos. P. Hasenauer, Scoutmaster Harry Koenig.

The seventh troop charter was issued Mar. 31, 1932, for the year ending Mar. 31, 1933. Troop committee included: E. W. Weber, chairman; C. H. Haag, Guy E. Schraedley, Jos. P. Hasenauer, Scoutmaster Harry Koenig.

The eighth troop charter was issued Mar. 1933, and the troop committee consists of: E. W. Weber, C. H. Haag, Jos. P. Hasenauer, Harry F. Koenig, Scoutmaster John Menchey, Assistant Elmer Zimmerman.

Scout Auxiliary

The Mothers' Auxiliary of the Boy Scouts of Troop 12 was organized on Oct. 1, 1928, with a membership of 10. The following were the original members: Mrs. E. W. Weber, Mrs. Kathryn Kendrick, Mrs. Anna Drake, Mrs. Elizabeth Ernst, Mrs. Bessie Steidle, Sister Elizabeth, Mrs. Lottie Davis, Mrs. Edith Hasenauer, Mrs. Mabel Moyer, Mrs. Essie Felker. The officers then elected included: Mrs. Kathryn Kendrick, pres.; Mrs. Anna Drake, secy.; Mrs. Lottie Davis, treas.

The present officers of the organization are: Pres., Mrs. David Boyer; vice pres., Mrs. Wm. Ernst; secy., Mrs. Geo. Allton; treas., Mrs. Harry Koenig. The list of members includes: Mrs. E. W. Weber, Mrs. George Allton, Mrs. David Boyer, Mrs. Wm. Ernst, Mrs. Harry Koenig, Mrs. Leonard Harney, Mrs. Fred Imschweiler, Mrs. Lawrence Imschweiler, Mrs. Hans Naundorf, Mrs. Jos. Hasenauer, Mrs. Wm. Moser and Mrs. Essie Felker.

Light Brigade

An organization of children called the Light Brigade abandoned meetings under that name, and in the fall of 1933 joined in with the instructions of the Week-Day Religious School.

Junior and Primary children, averaging in ages from six to 10 years, are being given a half hour's program in connection with the school work. There are about 90 children, with Mrs. John Yaag in charge.

The Light Brigade, in former years was known as the Junior Missionary Society, and Miss Bessie Rosengarten and Miss Helen Krebs were in charge, also of its organization, in about 1915, Mrs. Lewis, formerly of Reading, now deceased, took over the work for a while, and was succeeded by Miss Ellen Mack, who held position as leader for more than seven years.

During the last two years, Miss Mack has been assisted in her work by Miss Lois Waters and Miss Betty Haag. At that time the organization included children eight and nine years of age, but now take in a wider age range.

Parsonage Aid

The Parsonage Aid Society, a women's organization, with a present membership of 191, was organized about 35 years ago, by Mrs. Umbenhen, who served as its active president for more than 25 years.

Its object in organization was to help the indebtedness incurred by the purchase of the parsonage at Second and Race Sts., in 1895, and to keep the same in repair. Eight members responded to a call for the first meeting. It has steadily grown, and at its anniversary, in January of this year, accepted more new members. The society sees that the present parsonage building is kept in excellent condition, and is also generous in aiding other church activities.

The present officers are: Pres., Mrs. G. A. Zierle; vice pres., Mrs. Emily Hock; secy., Mrs. Laura Scheerer; treas., Mrs. Catharine Snyder, and honorary pres., Mrs. J. H. Umbenhen.

Assisting Mrs. Umbenhen at the first meetings were Miss Emma Weber, secy., now living away from Pottsville, and Mrs. Fred Schall, now deceased, treas.

Organizations Discontinued

Various other organizations were begun, and held meetings for a number of years, and then were discontinued. The Zion's Verein, a men's beneficial society, was in swing for quite a long time, but decided to disband about 10 years ago.

The Sewing Circle was another women's organization, with Mrs. A. W. Schalck as its president, and during its regime bought a new organ for the church, the old one having been formerly on the church balcony.

The Busy Bee was a children's society, and met each Saturday afternoon for 13 years. This was organized and headed by Mrs. J. H. Umbenhen, and was attended by about 60 members.

The Men's Brotherhood of former years had as its president, D. W. Miller, but its meetings were abandoned some years ago. A new organization was formed in 1932.

Girls' Circle

Another active body organized about 1918 is the Girls' Circle, whose incumbent president is Mrs. Emil Weber, wife of the pastor.

Mrs. Marion Miller was the first president and Mrs. W. Leidich, the directress of the Circle, in which French, art, sewing and singing were taught during the early period of its organization. The group does charity work within and outside o fthe church and meet every Thursday evening.

The officers are: President, Mrs. Emil Weber; Pice President, Mrs. Benj. Liddle; Secretary, Miss Helen Belaskie and Treasurer, Miss Bertha Vogt.

Girl Scouts

The Girl Scouts were organized in 1933 with Miss Claire Long of Buck Run, the leader. This group is progressing nicely and hold the weekly meetings in the recreation room of the church.

Church Staff

The church staff and personnel of Trinity Lutheran Church in 1934 include Rev. E. W. Weber, Pastor; Rev. John R. McClellan, Assistant Pastor; Miss Orrie Kaiser, Organist; Miss Kathryn Hoke, Parish Secretary; Henry Ehlers, Sexton, and

Rev. Tsuboike, pastor abroad in Japan.

The membership statistics compiled and included in the church history published in connection with the 100th anniversary celebrated from the 24th of June to July 1st give the following facts: baptized membership, 3356; confirmed membership, 2510; communion membershop, 1710; children unconfirmed, 846; catechumens, 197; organizations, 13; organization membership, 838; Sunday School enrollment, 1234; Cradle Roll, 157; Home Department, 125 and total S. S. membership, 1516.

Lenten Services and Bible School

During the pastorate of Rev. J. H. Umbenhen, a Children's Lenten service was inaugurated and during the past few years the average attendance at this Friday afternoon Lenten service for Children has been 525.

In 1926 Rev. Weber organized a Daily Vacation Church School, in order that the children might be able to receive some religious instruction to supplement that received in Sunday School and in 1934 there were a large corps of teachers headed by Rev. J. R. McClellan, assistant pastor who instructed nine departments in the school, with an average attendance of 288.

In the fall of 1933, a Week-day Religious School was organized and in charge of Rev. R. L. McCullough the average attendance here was 200.

In 1933 and 1934 such a great interest was aroused in the members in the Lenten weekly services that it became necessary to use the main and S. S. auditoriums to accommodate the great numbers and an amplification system was installed and a pastor presided in each auditorium with the sermon heard in the lower chapel by means of the amplifier.

Six Ministers From Church

Trinity Lutheran Church has an unusual record for there are five sons of the church studying for the ministry and one, Rev. Franklin Esterly, D. D., pastor, Christ Lutheran Church, Hazleton, who entered the ministry under the pastorate of Rev. Umbenhen.

The students are: Robert L. Herman, of Lutheran Seminary at Mt. Airy; Paul Schoeneman, Hamma Divinity School, Springfield, Ohio; Gerald Jacoby, Wm. Leifield and John Brokhoff, of Muhlenburg College, Allentown. Two daughters of the congregation, Miss Isabel Brod and Miss Elizabeth Haag completed courses in Parish Work at the Baltimore Training School in the spring of 1934.

Called Assistant Pastor

When the duties of the church became too extensive to be carried on by one pastor, the council called an assistant and in 1931, Rev. Russel L. McCullough, B. D., of Chicora was called.

Rev. McCullough, a son of Mr. and Mrs. John L. McCullough of Chicora, Pa., was a graduate of Millerstown High School in 1924, Thiel College in 1928 and entered Maywood Seminary, Chicago for a year, and graduated from Mt. Airy Seminary, Phila., in 1931, the year in which he accepted the call to Trinity Lutheran in June.

He served as associate pastor until 1934 when he accepted a call to Epiphany Lutheran Church, Pleasantville, N. J., and in May of 1934 received his B. D. degree. He was a leader in the work of the young people of the church and established an enviable record for himself in this field of work.

When Rev. McCullough accepted the call to Pleasantville, the council called Rev. John R. McClellan, son of Mr. and Mrs. Jas. McClellan of

Catasauqua. Rev. McClellan, a graduate of Allentown Preparatory School in 1923, completed his course at Muhlenberg in 1927, Mt. Airy Seminary in 1930 and was ordained into the ministry in June 1930.

He served from 1930 to 1932 as pastor of Christ Lutheran Church, Alameda, Calif., and was called to Trinity Lutheran Church in February 1934.

Prior to the calling of assistant pastors the congregation was served for two years by Sister Elizabeth Meitzler, deaconcess, who served from 1928 to 1930 before resigning the field.

100th Anniversary

Trinity Lutheran Church observed the 100th anniversary of its founding the week of June 25th and July the 1st with a series of appropriate services.

Beginning the celebration, a pageant, "Foundations", was presented. It dealt with the history of the church and showed in 13 scenes, events whose bearing on the history of the church were important.

In this pageant the first little group of German settlers meeting with a circuit rider preacher on through history to the building of the first church, the ringing of the first bell, the burning of the mortgage on the remodeled church and new S. S. auditorium in June 1921 on Children's Day, to the present day church were depicted.

The anniversary services were formally opened by Dr. E. P. Pfatteicher, president of the Evangelical Lutheran Ministerium.

A German service in the afternoon of the 24th with Rev. Robert Ischinger of Reading, the speaker, a Music Night service in the evening with Rev. Sterling Bashore of Wilmington, Del., speaker, were followed by a week of services including Community, Organization, Conference, Sunday School, Church Night Services, ending with an anniversary communion service conducted by the two pastors, Rev. E. W. Weber and Rev. J. R. McClellan.

The principal speakers of the week included Rev. C. M. Nicholas. Rev. Wm. Cutler, Pottsville, Mrs. J. H. Umbenhen, Pottsville, Rev. C. A. Steigerwalt, Sch. Haven, President of the Pottsville Conference, Rev. R. L. McCullough, Pleasantville, Rev. Frank Esterly, Hazleton and S. S. Supt. Robert Bader.

Pottsville Bands and Drum Corps

By E. L. CLIFFORD

(From "Pottsville Republican"-"Morning Paper," June 26-July 5, 1934)

Pottsville has two bands and three drum corps, the Pottsville Band (known as the Third Brigade Band), the Pottsville High School Band; the Robert Woodbury Post No. 67 American Legion Drum Corps, the Anthracite Bugle and Drum Corps, and the Pottsville Community Junior Bugle and Drum Corps.

48th Regiment Band

Pottsville has had the distinction for many years of having exceptionally good musical talent. Going back to the early days, the 48th Regiment Band, with J. W. Souders as its leader, with 23 members, known as the Citizens' Band of Pottsville, was mustered in on Sept. 2, 1861.

The band members were as follows: Wm. A. Maize, staff major; J. W. Souders, leader; Wm. J. Feger, Daniel Kopp and John T. Hays, E-flat cornet; Chas Hemming, Levi Nagle, John Cruikshank, Chas. A. Glenn and Chas. Slingluff, altos; Thos. Severn, piccolo; John George, Wm. Hodgson, Wm. H. Gore and Fredk. Brown, tenors; Wm. Lee, Clarinet and cymbals; Edw. L. Hass, baritone; Wm. Birt, E-flat clarinet; Jas. Aikman and Nicholas McArthur, E-flat bass; Albert Bowen and Jas. N. Garrett, snare dum; John Aikman, bass drum; C. T. McDaniel, cook.

Patriotism was rampant in those days, and the bands were kept busy playing for the various political movements. They were next to duty at Fortress Monroe, and placed on transport several times to be taken to the place of action, but were recalled. The regiment was ordered to Fredericksburg, and later Culpepper Court House, where they finally received orders to muster out.

96th Regiment Band

The 96th Regiment Band, with N. J. Rehr, leader, left for Washington on Nov. 6, 1861 The roster follows: N. J. Rehr, leader; H. K. Downing, drum major; Horace G. Walbridge and Christian Ferg, E-flat cornet; Amos E. Walbridge, first cornet; Christ Bodman and H. M. Law, second cornet; Henry Bodman, Henry Hoffman and John W. Morgan, clarinet; Fidel Fisher, piccolo; Adolphus B. Walbridge, Henry Walbridge and Geo. V. Roehrig, alto; John Ward and Chas. Oberlies, tenor; Andrew Smith, baritone; H. Curtis Shoener, second baritone; John Bodefeld and J. N. Lauer, first bass; Jos. Kepley and A. Pfaltzgraf, snare drum; Saml. H. Parker, bass drum. Cornelius Trout, cymbals; W. McDaniel, cook.

The band was sent in a freight car, which had its roof broken in. Rain fell all day, and the band was in a sorry condition when it arrived at Washington on Saturday, Nov. 9th, at 2:00 a. m.

They went by way of Gordon, when the regiment got out and walked down the plane, then on to Sunbury, Harrisburg and Washington. At Washington they were given quarters at an old stable, and at daybreak took up the march to new quarters at Camp Blakensburg. Towlgates, through mud knee deep. The band received its discharge Aug. 14, 1862, all bands being mustered out, and the regiment was given marching orders.

Upon the arrival at home of both bands, they formed a new musical

organization called the Pottsville Cornet Band, and received a three months engagement with the 48th Regiment, which was then stationed at Lexington, Ky.

After the war, a band known as Jones' Band sprang into favor, and remained as such until Sept. 19, 1879, when the band was reorganized and known as the Pottsville Cornet Band, with Prof. J. I. Alexander as the leader.

The Third Brigade Band

On Aug. 2, 1881, Gen. J. K. Sigfried mustered the band into the National Guards as the Third Brigade Band, of Pennsylvania. After Gen. Sigfried was succeeded by Gen. J. P. S. Gobin, the band still held its position on the Third Brigade staff. Prof. Alexander was succeeded by Prof. Frank Zeitz, a German musician, whose desire to play nothing but high German music made him unpopular, and after a division among its members, Prof. Frederic Gerhard became the leader.

West End Band

The West End Band, under the leadership of Wince McDaniels, was a martial band that rehearsed out around Quinntown, and it furnished the best members the Third Brigade Band possessed, one of them being Howard L. Sterner. They were a splendid organization.

Pottsville Cornet Band

Feb. 17, 1880, the following is noted in the Minute Book of the Pottsville Cornet Band:

"The object of this Association is to promote the science of music, to accommodate and entertain the citizens of Schuylkill County, and to establish a permanent musical organization in the borough of Pottsville.

The organization shall be called the Pottsville Cornet Band."

"Pottsville, Sept. 19, 1879. A meeting of the members of the late Jones Cornet Band was called at the office of B. Bryson McCool for the purpose of trying to organize a band. Jos. Skeen was made president, and Adolph H. Kopp, secretary."

On motion of Mr. Tindle the band was organized and a committee of five was appointed, consisting of Fidel Fisher, J. I. Alexander, Horace Walbridge, Geo. Ochs and Adolph H. Kopp, and was directed to draw up a constitution and by-laws, and see what instruments could be purchased for; Mr. Alexander being present, was asked to become director of the band. He asked time to consider it and later accepted.

On Sept. 26, 1879, a motion carried announcing a president, secretary and treasurer be elected, they also to serve as the board of trustees and an executive committee to take charge of all property belonging to the band.

Another motion carried which gave the entire control of the band to the musical director, in everything pertaining to music.

On Oct. 10, 1879, a motion carried appointing J. I. Alexander conductor of the band at a salary of $200.00 per year.

No person is to become a member who is not a resident of Pottsville. All members were to be elected by ballot. All active members of the band were necessary to elect new members, either active or probationary.

Active members are required to sign the constitution no later than one month after being elected.

The following members were then proposed: Mr. Fisher proposed Nicholas Powers; Mr. Ochs proposed Frank Weston; Mr. Tindle proposed Daniel Kohler; Mr. Wren proposed James Sterling; Mr. Ochs proposed Henry Jungkurth; Mr. Alexander proposed Henry Reichard; Mr. Fisher proposed George Weaver.

On motion of Louis Weston, all were elected on probation excepting Daniel Kohler and James Sterling whom Mr. Alexander would try out, and recommend the best man to be tenor drummer.

Mr. Fisher proposed Peter Haley as Eb bass player who was unanimously elected on Oct. 24, 1879.

Andrew Smith was elected probationary member on same date.

Nov. 4th, the fourth story room of the Morris building was rented for $250 and payment of gas; term one year.

Nov. 7th, Mr. Ochs reported the sum of nearly $1030 had been subscribed, and the committee were notified to go ahead and collect the same, also a committee was named to prepare for the holding of a fair.

Nov. 14th, Mr. Alexander reported he had selected Mr. Sterling as tenor drummer, and a motion prevailed to elect Mr. Kohler bass drummer or cymbal player.

Nov. 21st, Dr. Filbert announced he could not serve on the committee on the fair.

Nov. 28th, the committee reported they had collected $840 and another committee reported they could lease the rooms in the Seitz building for $100 per year for a term of three or five years; they were advised to rent the same.

A four-in-one cornet was brought to town to be contested for by visiting bands of the county at the fair then being arranged for. Also a motion was made to bring Joseph Meyers into the band as the bass drum player, which was acceeded to. Geo. Snyder was likewise taken in as Eb bass player.

At this meeting B. Bryson McCool was requested to effect the organization of a Board of Control.

Dec. 7th, the meeting was held in the "New Room" and the committee reported partitions had been taken out, new lock placed on door and gas fixtures installed. Charles Lloyd was appointed janitor at $1 per month. Forty keys were ordered made for the lock on door, also half a dozen tin spittoons were ordered. Mr. Reichard stated he would build a coal box if the band purchased the hinges, which was decided upon, also a piece of zinc was ordered to be placed beneath the stove. Mr. Reichard stated he would place strips for hats and coats if band furnished hooks, which was done.

Jan. 4th, 1880, the new instruments arrived from Conn & DuPont, Elkhart, Ind., on Christmas Day and were placed on exhibition up to New Year's Day. Agricultural Park was leased for a picnic on July 5th.

Feb. 13th, Mr. Weaver refused to keep the Glockenspiel and Mr. Alexander proposed Horace Petery be given the same.

Mar. 12th, a motion carried fixing the charge of $15 for opening the Good Intent Fire Co. Ball, and this amount was to be the regular charge thereafter.

Mar. 23d, Harry Super was taken on probation to play the Glockenspeil.

Mar. 26th, Mr. Reichard tendered his resignation, and a vote of thanks was given for his services rendered.

Apr. 6th, the receipt of $10 for the use of the room was made by the orchestra, and an agreement of $50 per year for the use of the room was made.

Apr. 26th, an order was granted to Harry Foster for placing a wash basin.

The Gerhard's Join

May 11th, it was agreed to participate with the American Hose Co. in a Gift Concert, also the committee on uniforms had samples of same, the cap being the "Pinafore" style. Mr. Alexander proposed

Charles Gerhard as a member in full standing.

May 25th, on motion of Mr. Alexander, young Mr. Gerhard (Fred) be placed on probation as a Bb Clarinet player, said instrument to be purchased as soon as the money could be gotten together. John Shay was elected full member as Eb cornet player.

June 4th, the committee on uniforms were ordered to go ahead and procure the fatigue style.

June 8th, Mr. Alexander asked the use of the room for practicing the quadrille; granted.

June 22d, Mr. Alexander stated band was engaged by the First Defenders for the following Thursday 8:30 a. m. for half day, and in the evening they serenaded Generals Burnside and Patterson.

July 9th, on motion it was decided to ask the papers to publish the fact that a charge of $25 was asked for the use of Agricultural Park.

Aug. 3d, a request was made for a ballot box; Mr. Kopp said he would give them one; they were asked to get marbles; the secretary said he knew where he could steal some; the president appointed him a committee of one to go skirmishing for them. On motion $3 received from Mr. Cooper be placed in treasury; lost; a motion to spend it at "Stixey" Michaels was lost; procure beer and temperance for next Tuesday, carried.

Aug. 17th, on motion of George Sterling, the band be called the "7th Regt. Band," but not be sworn in the state service; motion carried.

Sept. 7th, Wm. Quinn was taken on probation as a Bb Bass player; the janitor sent word he would do the work hereafter for $2 per month.

Sept. 21st, on motion Mr. Kohler, an order be drawn for $7 for new tenor drum shells.

Oct. 7th says, any member going out with the band on an engagement and not coming back with the Band will forfeit his pay. On motion, when the Republican Party wants this Band they pay before we leave the room. Carried. Mr. Brennan was elected on probation to play Eb cornet.

Nov. 9th, M. J. Thompson was taken in on probation, also John Guldin become drum major with understanding he purchase his own equipment.

Dec. 24th, resignations of Messrs. Quinn, Snyder, McDaniel, and the papers requested not to publish same.

Jan. 4th, 1881, Mr. Pugh was taken on probation to play Bb Bass.

Feb. 18th, owing to the band going to Washington, it was impossible to accept invitation to play on 22d; men unable to get off from work.

Mar. 8th, L. H. Drumheller was placed on probation.

June 2d, Irvin H. Super was taken on probation as Bb Clarinet player.

Propose "Third Brigade" Name

June 28th, Mr. Fisher made a motion to make application to become the Third Brigade Band.

July 22d, a motion was passed to give a concert at Court House Park. Danl. J. Pugh was elected a full member.

Aug. 2d, John Cheatam and J. Irving Super were elected full members.

Aug. 16, Louis Claussman was elected a full member.

Sept. 13, Secretary A. H. Kopp resigned, and H. G. Jungkurth was elected his successor.

Jan. 10th, 1882, $250 was received from the state as appropriation; four new trombones were received and an order for $113.10 was passed to pay for same.

Mar. 16, Arthur Smiley was taken on probation to play the Glockenspiel and Augustus Smith, Jr., to play 3d alto; on probation; also Wm. Alexander and Frank Fey, Jr., be taken in as wards of the band. (Both were boy cornet soloists.)

Apr. 7th, a communication was ordered sent to Judge Green asking if he had ordered Mr. Henning to take the band to John Young's for refreshments at his expense.

May 16th, Messrs. Thos. Smith, Frederick Gerhard and A. G. Smiley were elected full members; J. Rees taken on probation.

July 11th, a communication was sent to find out if the State would furnish equipment for encampment at Lewistown.

Oct. 2, the band was engaged to attend the Bi-Centennial at Phila., to accompany the Eighth Regt., N. G. P.

Jan. 16th, 1883, motion carried to have a sleighing party on Thurs., Jan. 25th; and give a concert; if Shenandoah Opera House is engaged, band to go to Mah. City.

Apr. 6th, 1883, a motion carried to buy new uniforms, style and price as follows: red cloth dress coat $18; white duck breeches, $2.50; shoulder knots, $3; belt and pouch, $5; helmet, $4; total, $32.50.

July 6th, Mr. Jenkins and Mr. Faust were elected full members; (presume this was Elam Jenkins, who became famous cornetist, and the late mail carrier, Wm. Faust) H. J. Williams was also elected this date. Louis Claussman and Jacob Kopp were appointed as advance guard to put up tents at summer encampment.

Sept. 10th, Anthracite Base Ball Club arranged for a tournament on Sept. 17th.

Oct. 22, J. E. Thaler was elected on probation.

Nov. 16th, Mr. Alexander asked for new instruments and was voted permission to order two Eb cornets and two fleugel horns; also 36-inch hollywood bass drum.

Nov. 23d, Gowen Post requested band services for Military Drama, Nov. 28, 29, 30 and Dec. 1, on motion decided to play; also to buy a new Eb clarinet and military concert flute.

Apr. 1st, 1884, committee appointed to wait on General J. K. Seigfried in regard to getting a state uniform for encampment purposes.

May 23, communication on ball requested band to furnish two cashiers and eight barkeepers; following appointed: Messrs. Snyder and Jungkurth, cashiers; Messrs. Kepley, Meyers, Ochs, Sterling, Kohler, Powers, Faust and Sterling, barkeepers. Big bank account for once.

Jan. 12, 1885, Mr. Kopp, treasurer of Fair Committee, reported sum in hand as $3,014.28, less $5 for blind man; leaving $3,009.28 turned over to treasurer Chas. Gerhard, of the band; a vote of thanks was tendered to committee and ladies auxiliary who helped make the Fair a success. New uniforms were next ordered, pouch to contain words "Third Brigade Band" on it.

Apr. 15, Thos. Smith and Elam Jenkins appointed a committee to visit Mr. Thaler, who was ill, and report as to aid required.

May 8th, action taken on death of Mr. Thaler; casket ordered for $50, also have shroud made; citizens asked to supply carriages; West End, Yorkville and Pt. Carbon bands invited to attend funeral, with Third Brigade Band in uniform, wearing white gloves.

July 6th, Messrs. Frank Derr, Fred Gerhard, Danl. Kohler, Geo. Meyers, Geo. Geary appointed camp committee on rations.

July 17th, Mr. Cake and Mr. Muehlhof elected on probation. Mr. Tarr hired to cook at encampment.

Dec. 17th, Howard Sterner elected on probation to play bass horn.

Jan. 11th, 1886, band meeting held to take action on failure of battery of band to report for an engagement at the rink; committee appointed to pass upon same; members were fined one dollar, and if they failed to pay, resignations would be requested.

Mar. 6th, a pair of Turkish cymbals were ordered.

Apr. 19th, Ninth Regt., Wilkes-Barre, requested price for 10 day engagement for their Fair. Accepted with understanding they be permitted to attend Scranton Constantine Commandery on May 25th, for parade.

Sept. 17th, meeting called to take action on celebrating seventh anniversary on Sept. 19th.

Jan. 7, 1887, Commander Spiegel, of Gowen Post arranged for concert and a donation of $15 acknowledged.

July 15, 1887, a controversy in regard to an Allentown engagement by the Humane Fire Co. was noted.

Nov. 18th, 1887, Capt. Eastman, of Phila., asked band to contribute day's service in Phila. for benefit of striking miners.

Jan. 16th, 1888, committee appointed to entertain visit from Grant Band, of Shenandoah. Mr. Zeitz was paid for services rendered.

July 13th, 1888, Russel Smith, Frank Scholly and Nicholas J. Becker elected in full membership, and Philip Arbogast, on probation.

Visit By Genl. Gobin

Jan. 8th, 1889, Robert Herbert elected janitor. Messrs. Arbogast, Faust and Geo. Sterling resigned. Also, an invitation to accompany Genl. J. P. S. Gobin from the station to the hall where military companies were holding a Fair was accepted.

Feb. 5th, 1889, arrangements were made for the band to take meals at Mrs. Warnick's boarding house at Washington, D. C., when they attend President's inaugural.

Mar. 26th, minutes show Danl. J. Kohler died. Death was supposed to have occurred after catching cold at Inaugural, the weather having been rainy and cold.

July 5th, Good Intent Fire Co. arranged for a three day excursion to Baltimore.

Oct. 18th, a meeting was called to take action upon the death of Adolph H. Kopp, for years president of band. Pallbearers were: Carter, Sterner, Derr, Pugh, Jungkurth, Meyers.

Liberty Band Organized

Oct. 18, following the funeral of their late member, Adolph Kopp, a meeting was held which determined what course to pursue when several of the most important members resigned to join a new band, called the Liberty Band, the latter having accepted Elam Jenkins as its leader. Dissatisfaction had been the result of the leadership of the Third Brigade Band when Franz Zeitz, a German musician, was selected for that post, upon the resignation of J. I. Alexander, who had accepted the leadership of the Ninth Regiment Band, N. G. P., of Wilkes-Bare, Pa.

As the members were unable to understand Prof. Zeitz, he being little familiar with the English language, they lost interest, and when they felt they were being "cussed" in German they resented it until the break came.

The Liberty Band existed for some time, but finally, after Prof. Fred Gerhard had been chosen the leader of the Third Brigade Band, and it made such rapid strides, the old members returned to its fold resulting in a better band than ever in the past, and its fame became widespread, engagements coming in from various parts of the country.

Under Gerhard, the highest class musical selections were mastered, soloists took active part, with Elam Jenkins gaining fame as a cornetist, and always in demand, while lesser soloists so well performed their part that the band ranked high in musical circles.

The first act Gerhard performed, was the selecting of George D. Beyerle, as librarian, which position he holds at the present time, having been a member several years before the former took up the baton.

Dec. 24th, Frank Sallade was made president pro tem.

Jan. 7th, 1890, Prof. Fred Gerhard, for some years prominent as an orchestra player, was elected leader of the band. Howard I. Sterner was elected president, J. Frank Sallade, vice president; H. G. Jungkurth, secretary; Chas. Gerhard, treasurer.

Mar. 6th, Winfield Nunemacher, A. A. Greenwalt, Arthur Womrath, P. J. Quigley, Terrias Hummel, Horace Moyer, Thos. Garrigan, Clarence Beyerle and Jas. Schreader be elected full members, and Messrs. Bottrell and Hille be elected on probation.

May 13, James Sterling made application to become a member again.

June 6th, George Beyerle, Wm. Nunemacher, H. G. Jungkurth, N. J Powers and Prof. Gerhard a committee on strawberry festival.

Sept. 13th, Elam C. Jenkins was reinstated as a member.

Jan. 16th, 1891, all former officers were re-elected.

June 30, encampment committee consisted of Jas. Schreader, A. Schollenberger, Chas. Neiman, H. Sterner and Geo. Hille.

Jan. 9th, 1892, Sterner, president; Sallade, vice-pres.; Jungkurth, secretary; Chas. Gerhard, treasurer.

Mar. 28th, a concert at Sch. Haven the previous week proved a financial success. Chas. Kline was placed on probation.

Apr. 22, 1892, Prof. Gerhard made a motion to play for the visit of Prof. Alexander's Ninth Regt. Band, of Wilkes-Barre when they arrive in town for a concert. Carried.

May 31st, the resignation of Chas. Gerhard, as treasurer, and Edward Gerhard as member, was announced as they were leaving town; E. L. Clifford was elected unanimously as treasurer to succeed Mr. Gerhard.

June 14th, Albert F. Boxmeyer and Harvey Esbenship were elected as members.

Aug. 23rd, bills were paid for services rendered at Homestead, where band was ordered out by State Militia a short time previously.

(The band was stationed on the hills at Homestead, following the order to mobilize the state militia to prevent further bloodshed caused by a strike at the steel mills. The "Little Bill" a boat on the river had been attacked by striking steel workers with the result that lives had been lost. After the arrival of the militia, quiet prevailed and the strikers fraternized with the National Guard who fed many families suffering as the result of the strike. The band played for the troops during the stay there. When ordered to return to their home in Pottsville, they visited the office of H. C. Frick, a prominent magnate of that city, and shortly after the band serenaded him, an attempt was made to assassinate him, resulting in his being shot, but surviving, the assassin going to prison for a long term.

As the band reached Altoona, Pa., on its return home, it was startled to learn an explosion of gas had occurred at York Farm operation, Pottsville, and several lives were lost. It brought much gloom to the returning musicians, who knew the workers at the York Farm.)

Arrangements were made to accompany the First Defenders on their visit to Washington, D. C. on the 50th anniversary, the band marching on the right of line. Kline, Bonawitz, Boxmeyer and Esbenship were elected to full membership.

Jan. 3d, 1893, George Beyerle was elected Librarian.

Apr. 17th, Messrs. Gerhard, Schrader and Clifford were appointed a committee to arange for new instruments. Arrangements were also made to play concerts at Tumbling Run.

Aug. 28th, N. J. Becker and Adam Scheerer were elected members.

Nov. 14th, Thos. Smith was reinstated as a member.

Mar. 9th, 1894, Walter Herwig was placed on probation.

Sept. 24, committee appointed to arrange for a nine day Fair; season tickets, 50 cts.; a parlor grand piano to be offered as a prize.

Jan. 8th, 1895, all officers re-elected; a drum lost at Phila. at McClellan Monument unveiling, owned by Mr. Hummel, was replaced by purchasing drum of Geo. Sterling.

Nov. 5th, Messrs. Ratigan and Moore placed on probation. John Schatzlein was also placed on probation.

Jan. 5th, 1896, officers elected were: Frank Sallade, president; H. G. Jungkurth, secretary; E. L. Clifford, treasurer.

Mar. 2d, John Kessler was elected member on probation.

(The Band conducted dances, played at Tumbling Run concerts, at private homes, and various places and permitted the funds resulting from the above, to be used for the purchase of new instruments, which was cheerfully agreed to by the members, donating their services for the good of the cause.)

July 7th, 1896, at the regular meeting, James Schrader was elected unanimously as president. A Camp Committee was appointed to look after equipment at the annual encampment and if funds were short, to borrow the sum of $100 to carry over until the state funds arrived.

Nov. 24, a mess tent was purchased from W. H. Holmes for the sum of $58. C. E. Beyerle was made secretary pro tem at several meetings at this time.

Jan. 7, 1897, an order was granted for 50 cents to pay lamp carriers, the old kerosene lamp still being in use and boys willing to carry them for a few cents and the privilege of marching with the band.

Apr. 6, 1897, the report stated the appropriation from the State of Penna. for one year was $500, and the sum of $200 for rent. A committee was appointed consisting of Gerhard, Schatzlein and Jenkins to look after the proper method of expending the state appropriation. At this time the players were paid $2 per day for their services when engaged.

July 27, a motion carried accepting invitation of Fourth Regt. Drum Corps to attend their festival. This Drum Corps was under the supervision of Prof. Gerhard when it accepted the regimental task, and with Drummajor Martin, became a great martial organization which developed wonderfully in the next year or two. A Camp Committee consisted of H. L. Sterner, N. J. Powers, H. C. Moore, Jos. Manning, A. L. Schollenberger.

Aug. 17, the band accepted invitation to play for Pottsville Hospital at Tumbling Run on 20th, and the picnic of C. Geo. Miller for the store clerks.

Sept. 13, J. Frank Sallade, treasurer reported the proper division of state funds. At this time C. E. Beyerle was secretary.

Jan. 7, 1898, officers were elected as follows: Howard L. Sterner, pres.; J. F. Sallade, Treas.; Geo. Beyerle. N. J. Powers and Prof. Gerhard, Trustees.

(In March of this year, the Spanish War call took the band to Mt. Gretna, the only Bridgade Band in camp. At the general review held there of the entire Division of the Penna. National Guard, the Third Brigade Band played for the entire review and made a record of playing continuously for the greatest length of time thus far recorded.

As each Brigade—First, Second and Third passed in review, the band played without one stop, the length of time recorded from the time of starting to the passing of the last soldier was 48 minutes. To those who have no knowledge of the task of playing this length of time, it is well to state that Geo. Hille, the cymbal player, became so fatigued that it was necessary for him to clash the cymbals holding them between his knees, while the players of other large instruments were in a terribly cramped position, but the martial tread of soldiers on their way to the Spanish War went merrily to the superb strains of the Third Brigade Band.

Gov. Hastings called the Band to his headquarters, and paid them highest compliments for their achievement.

None but regimental bands were accepted in the war order, so that Third Brigade Band were returned to their homes.

During the next few months, the band tendered their services for any worthy soldier benefit, and were a reserve organization of the state working in conjunction with local war committees.

The names of Bonawitz, Clausman, Boxmeyer, Schatzlein, Nunemacher, Sterling, Becker and Geo. and Clarence Beyerle figure prominently in all the affairs of the band at this time.)

Jan. 10, 1899, new uniforms were discussed and bids asked for same.

About this time a communication was sent to Mgr. Duncan, of the Electric Railway Co., making arrangements for the opening of Adamsdale Park. A later date shows the profits were $271.01.

July 7, 1899, Harry Boxmeyer was elected a full member.

Aug. 4, 1899, (the minutes contain the fact that a medal had been presented to Prof. Gerhard by the members while playing for Pomeroy's, at Harrisburg, where 30,000 people had congregated. E. L. Clifford had made arrangements for the purchase of the handsome badge, and it was presented at Reservoir Park, Harrisburg, Pa., by an attorney of that city. As the badge was pinned on, Prof. Gerhard rapped upon his stand with his baton, and called for "The Star Spangled Banner," which was played in a masterly manner. The cheers of many thousands rent the air, and a trying moment for Mr. Gerhard was passed over without embarrassment. The badge was a magnificent piece of work, manufactured by W. H. Mortimer, jeweler, and during the remainder of his life, Mr. Gerhard wore it with great distinction. It was pinned on his uniform and he carried it to his last resting place.)

Jan. 9, 1900, officers elected were H. L. Sterner, Pres.; A. L. Schollenberger, Vice Pres.; C. E. Beyerle, Secy.; J. F. Sallade, Treas.; Geo. D. Beyerle, Frederic Gerhard and Wm. Faust, Trustees.

Mar. 12, the band was asked to play concerts at Tumbling Run Park, Tues., Thurs. and Sat. evenings during summer.

Sept. 3, Carl Wilson was accepted as a probationary member. The

Misses Bannan turned over the sum of $104 as result of a concert given for the benefit of the band.

Oct. 2, Jos. Witman was placed as a probationary member. The Garrigan brothers and Ed. Ratigan appear in minutes this date, while J. Pauly was on probation.

May 33, 1901, H. W. Bressler was placed on probation. W. Herwig was placed on probation. Dances at Railway Park were proposed and accepted at this time, and Henry Womelsdorf was the projector.

Sept. 10, minutes report tendering services to McKinley Burial Service. Mr. Reif was made full member.

(For the next two years the regular duties of playing for Cos. F and H were participated in, and Memorial Day observances likewise.)

Jan. 6, 1903, a donation of floral tribute was made to late janitor, James Fisher.

Apr. 28, a motion made to accept engagement with Liberty Fire Co., of Reading, Pa., for parade. (The boys certainly paraded up and down Penn Street, that city, until some of the members were carried into drug stores to smooth out cramps received in the long march.) On same date, Col. O'Neil of the 4th Regt., tendered the band the honor of becoming the 4th Regt. Band.

June 4, Messrs. Kaufman and Dietrich were made full members. The 13th Regt., of Scranton, invited the band to become their regimental band, but offer was not accepted.

Jan. 4, 1904, Mr. Eiler was elected a member.

Aug. 5, a contract was drawn to play at Tumbling Run on Sundays.

Dec. 13, C. E. Beyerle after a vacancy for a short time in the Secretaryship was elected to the position.

Apr. 3, 1905, Robert Braun was elected a full member. A vote of thanks was tendered Messrs. Haussmann, Allen, Brown and the G. A. R. for assistance in making parade and Fair a success.

May 16, the Pottsville Union Traction Co. engaged Band for two Memorial Day concerts at Tumbling Run.

May 26, the Band accepted the offer of Harry Wowelsdorf of the Outdoor Club for a Benefit Dance to aid the new uniform fund.

Dec. 26, Roy Sterling, Joseph Harrison and Charles Ard were admitted to full membership.

Jan. 15, 1906, the following officers were elected: H. L. Sterner, Pres.; W. S. Nunemacher, Vice Pres.; C. E. Beyerle, Secy.; James S. Sterling, Treas.; Gerhard, Wilson and Powers, Trustees.

May 14th, Hazleton requested Band for their Old Home Week.

Aug. 10th, the Committee on Trolley Party reported net proceeds of $168.60.

Jan. 8, 1908, same officers as previous year were elected.

June 2, new quarters in the Ferguson Bldg. were occupied.

Dec. 11, the question of new uniforms again came up when the music committee gave quotation for Wilkes-Barre and Hazleton.

Jan. 19, 1909, same officers were re-elected.

May 3, Messrs. Painter and McGeary were elected full members.

Sept. 2, Band accepted engagement for Firemen at Allentown.

Jan. 10, 1910, James Jenkins elected a full member. The secretary asked for an order to purchase two sets of drum sticks for the Snare Drums. The bill was $1.96.

May 10, the Band accepted the offer of Mr. Haussman for a Testimonial Concert in honor of Prof. Gerhard.

June 3, 1910, a vote of thanks was tendered Miss Martha Bannan, for donation of full set of "Old Favorites."

Jan. 3, 1911, accepted as full members: Geo. Smith, Ralph Tatnell, Wm. Schenk, Geo. Hostetter and Clarence Jenkins, and Auxiliary Members: Tucker, Zwieble and Morgan.

Feb. 7, officers: H. L. Sterner, Pres.; W. S. Herwig, Vice Pres.; C. E. Beyerle, Sec-Treas.; Gerhard, Powers and Wilson, Trustees.

Apr. 4, Sch. County Centennial Asso. asked the Band to assist with their Fair which was agreed to.

Jan. 26, 1912, Norman Dietrich elected full member of the Band.

Apr. 23, Clarence Morgan elected a full member and Fred. Schenk on probation.

Dec. 17, 1912, Geo. Lindeman, Jas. Sourber, Fred Schenk, Leslie Beck, Walter Pyle and Carl Bettler as full members.

Same date acknowledgment was made to letter of J. H. Zerbey for band services at dedication of New "Republican" press.

Feb. 4, 1913, the Band made mention of death of member W. C. Herwig, and decided to attend funeral in body.

Feb. 21, the Wilson & Marshall Club engaged band to attend Wilson Inaugural at Washington.

June 20, Ralph Price and Wm. Casper were elected full members.

Nov. 13, 1913, an invitation was accepted at transfer of Schuylkill Co. Historical Society of acceptance of battlefield flags of old soldiers.

Jan. 7, 1914, Oscar Bressler, John Siebenkaes, Edwin Lennig, Robert Lawrence, W. Marshall, Geo. Weber. Pearson Beck and Frank Reber were elected as probationary members.

Apr. 2, Edgar Brown appears as a member of a committee on uniforms.

Oct. 8, "A special meeting was called to take action on the death of our beloved friend and leader, Prof. Frederic Gerhard." It was decided to attend the funeral in a body, and play the deceased's own arrangement of "Taps," which for years had been considered the finest of its kind thus far written. It was decided to keep the Band Room vacant for two weeks, and keep the room in mourning for 30 days.

Nov. 9, Prof. Painter was placed in charge of the band until further notice.

May 18, 1915, it was decided to have the band proceed to Presbyterian Cemetery and each man deposit a flower on the grave of the lamented Gerhard, and play his "Taps".

Aug. 11, 1915, a committee visited band to ask their services gratis, in a street parade of all Sunday Schools during Convention of Sept. 16.

Jan. 18, 1916, Roy Sterling and Chas. Emhardt were made full members.

Feb. 18, Fred Brodt was made full member; John Siebenkaes elected secy-treas.

May 14, 1915, a committee was appointed to consult with Mr. Shugars for the renting of Railway Park for dances and building a pavilion thereon. These dances were continued for a short time, twice a week on Wednesday and Saturday evenings.

Oct. 6, 1916, Secy. John Siebenkaes presented his resignation and Geo. Beyerle was appointed in his stead; at this meeting the sword of the late Prof. Fred Gerhard was turned over to his son, Charles Gerhard.

Mar. 27, 1917, Messrs. C. P. Hoffman and Judge R. H. Koch spoke to the Band in reference to volunteering their services to the Patriotic Asso. of Sch. County for parades in various towns in the county, this

was prior to the U. S. entering the war with Germany.

July 6, Prof. Painter made known his departure to take charge of the First Volunteer Army Band now being organized for the World War and a motion was made to have Charles P. Hoffman appointed as a temporary man to walk in front of the Band. This appointment was made.

July 20, Prof. Painter, Trustee and John Siebenkaes, Secy-Treas. having gone with the volunteer Band, leaving a vacancy in the Trustee Board, Messrs. Geo. Hostetter and Geo. Weber were appointed in their place.

Jan. 11, 1918, the following were made full members: Frank Schoeneman, Charles Artz, John Schreffler, Wm. Lawhead, Frank Pauly, Paul Kahler, Clayton Riegel, Arthur Felsburg, Arthur Acker, Edward Holahan, John Hentz, Charles Walker, and John Hochgertle.

Jan. 8, 1912, the widow of the late member Louis Claussman was remembered by the Band.

Sept. 24, 1920, Robert Braun was approached and tendered an offer to be the instructor of the Band and C. P. Hoffman to be the assistant Band Master. Mr. Braun accepted the position for a short time, then Mr. Hoffman took the position and has been active in the work from that day to the present.

May 19, 1921, the following were made full members: Fred Hoffman, Wm. Schreffler, Edwin Brown, Harry Schoeneman, Titus Carver, Morris Oppold, Martin Snitzer, C. F. Geiger, C. E. Beyerle.

Feb. 21, 1922, the officers were: Sterner, Pres.; Hostetter, Vice-Pres.; Hoffman, Powers, Smith, Whitman and Acker, Trustees; Beyerle, Secy.

Apr. 15, 1924, new uniforms were purchased.

(Minutes are not as fully kept as in the days when members played mostly for recreation.)

May 31, 1929, Vice Pres. George Hostetter called a special meeting to take action on the death of their late Pres. Howard M. Sterner, the Band furnished pall-bearers and also attended the funeral in a body.

The membership of the present Pottsville Band, formerly known as the Third Brigade Band, consists of the following:

Chas. P. Hoffman, Leader.

Miss Helen E. Schneider, soprano soloist.

Cornets—Jos. O. Witman, Wm. Willard, Steve Klemer, Jos. Lee, Webster Steidel, D. G. Connors, Harry Hostetter, Marl Freeze, Karl Sterner.

Trombones—John Kelmer, Geo. Hostetter, Samuel Aregood, Edward Brown, Chas. Bobinis, Joe Davis, Herbert Wensel.

Horns—Norman Dietrich, Fred Brod, Wm. Strauss, Elmer Boyer.

Basses—Elmer Brown, Geo. W. Webber, Joe Hause, Peter Mulhall.

Baritones—Thos. A. Smith, Harry Schoeneman.

Bb Clarinets—Geo. D. Beyerle, Arthur A. Acker, Jas. Jenkins, Leo Minnichbach, Theo. Weiss, Geo. Miller, Harry Berger, Elwood Thornburg, Bud Klemer.

Piccolo—Ben Schnerring.

Saxophones—Louis Lombardi, Harold Callaway, John Hentz, Edwin Link.

Battery—Frank Rehman, John Schott, Maurice Oppold, Harry Ammon, Geo. Hochguertel.

Community Jr. Bugle Corps

The Pottsville Community Junior Bugle and Drum Corps was organized on July 8th, 1931, as a non-profit organization purely for social enjoyment and musical entertainment.

A reorganization took place on May 5, 1933, at which time a charter was secured under the non-profit corporation law. A musical instructor was added, this being Geo. Heisler, Jr. The charter was made out in the control of the auxiliary. There are now 157 children who are members.

The officers at the present time are as follows: Pres., Elmer Schappel; Vice Pres. and Acting Business Manager, Harry Cartwright, Jr.; Secy., Mrs. Frank Metzger; Treas., Mrs. Geo. Dewald; Chaplain, Geo. Dewald; Investigating Committee, Mrs. Bessie Nichter, Frank Metzger and Peter Hoffman. J. E. Barton, who has been the Business Manager for some time, is on leave of absence, being located at Wilkes-Barre.

The Corps has participated in many parades in the county and has given its services for many church, hose company and other benefit affairs.

Legion Drum Corps

It was when Lieut. Clarence Marberger was Commander of Robert B. Woodbury Post No. 67, American Legion, in 1929-30, that the Drum and Bugle Corps of that organization was instituted. This followed the street carnival, during the fall of 1929, when booths and stands of the Legion occupied the surface of the freshly-laid concrete paving, on Market, west from Centre St.

The Legion was given the use of that thoroughfare, from Centre St. to the upper end of Garfield Square, where the Legion Home is located. This was the period when the lower part of the Market and Centre St. concrete paving was opened during the King's Highway demonstration.

During that carnival the Corps was instituted and participated in the parades of the week, though without uniforms. In the following year new uniforms and full equipment were procured for the new organization.

The uniforms are fashioned after those of the Cadets at the United States Military Academy, at West Point, along the Hudson River, N. Y.

The winter outfits are of grey with cap and plumes. The grey trousers carry a black stripe down the sides. The summer change introduces white duck trousers with the same black stripe as characterizes those worn during the cold weather season. White cross belts are held by a brass pin buckle the face of which carries the Legion emblem. The members of the Corps wear overseas caps when not on parade.

Flag emblems carried by the Corps are a handsome standard of silk, "Old Glory", and also one of blue silk background, upon which field there is placed, in guilded lettering, the name of the organization and the Legion Post.

Prominent in organizing the Corps was Captain Geo. Heisler, his little son, George, Jr., marching at its head as the drum major-mascot.

In later years Heisler became a member of Robert E. Baker Drum Corps No. 38, of Schuylkill Haven, which, originally, aided in the institution of the local Legion Corps.

The Pottsville Corps has a maximum membership of 64. Lieut. Marberger, is now the commandant. His supporting officers are: Theodore Atkinson, first sergeant; Harry Phillips, supply sergeant; Oscar Leymeister, color sergeant; and Albert Fernsler, bugle sergeant. The committee of the Legion Post, which has charge of the affairs of the Corps, comprises: Lieut. Marberger, chairman; Lieut. George Barnhardt, Sergeant Francis A. Francis and William Morgans.

The Corps instrumentation is: thirty-two bugles, thirty-one Scotch drums; and two bass drums, the bugles being divided into tenor, alto and bass types.

Woodbury Post Corps quarters are on the second floor, rear, of the Legion Home, separate from the use of the building for the general purposes of the Legion, and all their own.

During the five years of its existence the Corps has been much in the limelight having participated in many public and parade functions at Pottsville and points that took them out of Schuylkill County.

It has been given a number of prizes. Among them were awards for all-around efficiency in processions at: Birdsboro, McAdoo, on Independence Day, and the Hallowe'en parade at Shamokin; the "Boy's Home Coming," at Ashland, all during last year; and, last week, in the Six-County Firemen Association's parade, at Mt. Carmel. It also paraded at Lehighton and Hamburg, participating in all the big demonstrations in Pottsville since it sprang into existence. Wherever the Corps contested in marches they have never failed to "bring home the bacon."

The organization is perfectly trained responding, with precision, to Lieut. Marberger's whistle signals and, on the march, executing difficult geometrical figures as well as doing fancy square drilling.

High School Band

The Pottsville High School Band is proving one of the valuable musical assets of that highest department of learning under the system of public education. The organization has been in existence the best part of six years. Though there is a considerable integral part of the band changing, every year because of a class being graduated, substantial material is always left as the nucleus upon which the band is rebuilt every year.

As membership in the band is open to any student taking the four-year course, notwithstanding the retirement of the members of the graduating class every year, there are sufficient of the seasoned members of the three other classes to give a substantial foundation upon which to rebuild the band which starts rehearsals at the opening of the fall term.

It was during the period when Prof. Clarence Toole was superintendent of the Pottsville schools, that he and Prof. Earl W. Haviland, director of music in the High School, conceived the idea of a boys' band.

After organization, there was much ingenuity to procure uniforms and instruments from sources that did not mean expenditure of the taxpayers' money. From the start, the band proved popular.

The band was developed to a high plane of proficiency while the Patterson school building, corner of Twelfth and Market Sts., was yet occupied as quarters for the High School. Since the occupancy of the new million-dollar High School building, the band has been developed and has flourished.

The High School Band has been built up through the persevering efforts of Prof. E. F. Marberger, a talented cornetist and conductor, also a member of the High School faculty. Musical clubs, organized in the High School, in 1928, have a total membership of more than 300 students. In addition to the band, there is a Symphony Orchestra of 65 members, a Boys' Glee Club of 50 voices, and the A Cappella Choir, an organization of mixed voices, comprising 40 members.

The Pottsville High School Band

is a talented organization of 55 pieces. Under Prof. Marburger's training, it rehearses every Friday of the school term. Members, whose work is acceptable are granted a one-half credit every year. The band has a fine record of service to the school it represents and the community. It has made many successful appearances in numerous concerts and parades. Any student who plays an instrument and can qualify, is always desirable for membership. The band instruments are now owned by the school district.

While bands in the school districts all about Pottsville, include many girls in their membership, that of the Pottsville High School, until recent date, was composed entirely of boys. Now there has been added just one girl member in the person of Miss Anna Jones. She is a clarinet player, and is ably holding her own with the boy members who prize her acquisition at its full value, for she displays real merit.

The band always makes a creditable appearance, whether it is marching at the head of the High School division, in local parades, or in concert work given at public and other functions conducted at the High School. On account of not being organized during the hot weather period, during the vacation of two months, the band does not find it necessary to invest in summer uniforms. Their uniforms. adaptable for the cold weather season, are of crimson, with white trimmings, the school colors. They compare favorably with the uniforms of other school bands in Schuylkill and contiguous counties.

Just as the general curriculum of the High School places graduate students, after a four-year course, in a position to become professional and business men and women, and suits them for any vocation of life, so four years as a member of the High School Band gives the members a musical foundation that fits them, after leaving school, to affiliate with other bands, some of them having high prestige in musical circles. In Pottsville's Third Brigade Band personnel are several musicians who received their early training in the High School Band.

Anthracite Drum Corps

The Anthracite Drum and Bugle Corps was instituted during January, 1933. Lester Berkheiser, who came here from Mt. Carmel, is the leader, teacher and drillmaster. The Corps has well appointed quarters at the home of their leader, 721 Fairview St. There is a supporting auxiliary, comprised of men and women who are interested in its success and general prowess. Among the active leaders are Wm. Frees, Chairman, and Mrs. Minnie Freeman, President.

The Anthracites have a girl drum major, Miss Addie Atkinson, whose perfect time and marching, is a feature. There is a membership of about 150 persons, both girls and boys whose ages range from tots of four to about 18.

Their uniforms comprise white duck trousers, capes of prettily blending blue and white and "Tams" of white. Miss Atkinson, who marches baton in hand, at the head of the corps, wears the same general uniform with the exception of a white helmet. Though organized such a short time, the Anthracite Corps has carried off a number of prizes, as a result of its excellent drilling. While most bugles and drum corps confine their membership strictly to these instruments, the Anthracites have in line a dozen fifers as well as varied types of buglers.

213th Coast Artillery Band

Shortly after the organization of the Service Battery, 213th Coast Artillery, a local Unit of the National Guard of Pennsylvania, a military band was established in 1922 and was enlisted as a part of that regiment. Opportunity was first given the Third Brigade Band which had a long tenure in the National Guard, connected with the Third Brigade to be attached to the regiment. On account of experiences that the musical organization underwent, at the Mt. Gretna rendezvous which caused some dissatisfaction, they declined to again enter the Guard.

Then Major D. S. Gressang enlisted an organization of 28 young musicians and they became the band unit of the Coast Artillery, which is still attached to the regiment being one of the most popular organizations of the kind in eastern Pennsylvania. The band was first conducted by Robert E. Herwig, local music teacher and developer of youthful musicians. He had previously organized and conducted a boys' band which had considerable popularity for years.

Warrant Officer Herwig, which is the rank of the band leaders, who now serve in the National Guard. assembled a number of musicians, practically all of them being collected from this and outlying communities. The complement of the band is just 28 men. These are regularly enlisted citizen soldiery. They receive the same treatment as the regularly enlisted artillerymen. They are also paid, as the other militiamen and compensated for drills, from $1 to $4 for every rehearsal, dependent upon their rank in the band.

Prof. Herwig was the head of the band until 1925. Then he felt it incumbent to retire because of the close attention required by the band, which seriously encroached upon the time that he had to devote to private work.

Prof. Henry W. Bressler, leader of the Schuylkill Haven Band, then succeeded him. Under his leadership the band advanced and flourished. For similar reasons to those that prompted his predecessor to drop out of the National Guard, Prof. Bressler retired in 1928. In the meantime, the band, whose membership was recruited almost exclusively from this section of the state, was transferred to Allentown, the headquarters of the regiment largely because of lack of interest displayed by this community toward it.

Warrant Officer Walter Larrimer, of the United States Regular Army, was procured to lead the Coast Artillery Band. He is still holding that important berth. The membership of the band is now principally confined to musicians procured in the vicinity of the Lehigh County capital. One or two men, from this section, still hold membership. The band has advanced to the rating of a first class Regular Army Band. Its services are much in demand for private concerts as well as for similar service at National Guard functions and particularly for concerts at the annual encampments.

Good Will Drum Corps

Because the Fife and Drum Corps of the Good Will Hose Co., is an integral part of that fire-fighting unit of the Pottsville Fire Department, it seems all the credit that would otherwise come to an independent musical organization, is not accruing. Yet, the company is proud of the talent it possesses, and of its association as an added feature to the "fire laddies," its presence having brought prize awards to the company, frequently, during the long years of its existence.

For more than a quarter of a century has the Good Will Hose Co. carried its musical organization. Among the present older membership are many, who at various times during the past score or more years, figured as a fifer or a drummer in the corps. Occasionally, during the old days, lack of interest threatened the disbandment of the organization, but there was always a timely revival.

Since 1918, the Corps has functioned most actively, and the prospects now are that it will continue as an organization as long as the company exists. Pres. Max Eber and his staff of officials, since their induction to office in control of the affairs of the Good Will Hose Co., have given the Corps a most cordial and supporting hand.

The Corps comprises 20 or more members. Its training is in the hands of Vincent Haverty and Jos. Griffiths. Mike E. Lawler is a great booster of the Drum Corps and, in his car, with the other members of the company following, has headed processions, in recent years, when the musical organization richly deserved the plaudits, which came to it as a matter of pure merit.

While the Good Will Drum Corps is comprised, principally, of the younger generation, Matt Scally, former fire police lieutenant, Walter Good, Geo. Levens and a half dozen others, who have held membership in the company for years at intervals have been identified with the organization. The instrumentation, today, is entirely fifes and drums. Up to a few years ago, two cornetists were carried, but they have since dropped out.

Two years ago, the Corps and fire company went to Washington, D. C., where they appeared in the big Firemen and Police parade, at the national capital, on Labor Day, or "National Day," as these anniversaries are called. At that time they were awarded a silver loving cup for general appearance and the fact that they came the longest distance. They plan to make the trip again, next fall, on the Labor Day anniversary.

In the recent Six County Firemen Association's parade, at Mt. Carmel, the company and the drum corps were awarded a prize. They also carried off a prize at Girardville, a few weeks ago. It is the intention of the company and drum corps to participate in the parade incident to the convention of the Pennsylvania State Firemen's Association, which will be held at Sunbury, next October.

The Good Will Hose Corps is proud of fact that they rank among the oldest firemen's drum corps, in point of continuous existence, in the state.

Fourth Regiment Drum Corps

Forty-six years ago, in 1888, Pottsville was represented by its first drum corps. It was dubbed the Pottsville Drum Corps, and became a chartered organization. John Hasenauer was its initial executive officer, and still retains in his possession the original charter.

In those days the use of a cornet in such organizations was unknown. The Corps held its early rehearsals in a little hut or shanty in the vicinity of Seventh and Race Sts.

Older citizens hark back to the days when the Pottsville Drum Corps made a brave showing on parade. "Bob" Jackson, brother-in-law of Charles Haussmann, was the drum major. He was an imposing figure, marching at the head of the organization, swinging his baton, throwing it high into the air

and catching it again, after it made several revolutions.

Later, the organization, as it grew larger, rehearsed on the second floor of Tom Brennan's blacksmith shop, the old "Bowery," it was called, at the site of the present Postoffice building, corner of Second and Norwegian Sts. It was assembled the nucleus of the later Fourth Regiment Drum Corps, in the National Guard of Penna., which, during the Spanish-American War, when the other militia soldiery were sworn into the United States service, also served as a part of that regiment as the Penna. Infantry.

The Fourth Regiment Drum Corps came into the public eye shortly before the "Bowery" location was vacated to clear the site for the federal building now occupying it. Members of the Fourth Regiment Drum Corps as previous units of the Pottsville Drum Corps, also met for rehearsals at the Armory in Union Hall, part of the former Academy of Music building. They also held forth for a time in the old American House, corner of Centre and Union Sts., and in the Brenneman property, a short distance south of that corner, later the place of business of R. A. Sylvester.

Prior to the Spanish-American War, the Fourth Regiment Band grew to be an efficient and popular organization, when, after leaving the "Bowery," it located in the Fox property on W. Arch St., between Third and Fourth Sts. Just before leaving the Brennan blacksmith rendezvous, a feature was added to the Corps when big "Bill" Martin, tall and straight, standing six feet, two inches in his stockings, became drum major. He wore a military coat covered with medals, and also a high, bushy French Fusiliers' head-piece, which made him appear gigantic in stature.

During the experiences of the Fourth Regiment Drum Corps they gave service with the National Guard in the Drifton mine strike riots, and also at the Homestead rioting period in the Pittsburgh zone. In those days, the Corps conducted a successful roller skating rink in Robbins' Hall, on N. Centre St., on the site of the present Hummel store.

The Pottsville Drum Corps, predecessors of the Fourth Regiment Drum Corps, wore a fanciful uniform of blue, with fringes. Upon the bosom of the shirts was an attrastive design of a "V" or wedge carrying a large monogram, "P. D. C." This was a blue shield with gilded letters. From its identity as the Fourth Regiment Drum Corps, in the National Guard, to its inception, as an organization of the United States Army, when Col. D. B. Case's infantry militia organization was sworn into the "regular" service, was a far step and required considerable maneuvering. Dr. Geo. H. Halberstadt, W. L. Stevenson and influential civilians backed up Col. Case's efforts to have the Corps held intact. Dr. Halberstadt, at that time, was surgeon of the Fourth Regiment.

This was done by detaching musicians from the various commands of the Regiment. Each company was allowed recruiting of two musicians. These were banded together under Sergt. Geo. W. Dewald, brother of ex-Chief of Police Fred Dewald. now residing at Williamsport as chief musician, attached to Col. Case's staff. The Corps, when it marched away from Pottsville, with the Fourth Regi-

ment units to the Mt. Gretna rendezvous, after the outbreak of the Spanish-American War, comprised a personnel of 37 musicians. Among them were a half dozen buglers and cornetists. Frank ("Yeff") Fey, a cornet player of the Third Brigade Band, was a member of the Corps.

Others, in the personnel of the Fourth Regiment Drum Corps, were: W. L. Stevenson and his brother, Hugh Stevenson, Geo. W. Dewald, Ernest Hyde, Arthur Womer, Tim Sullivan, Harry Kaiser. Harry Crosland, Henry Lang, John Potts, now of Tulsa, Okla.; Henry Boxmeyer, Chas. G. Niece, Chas. Schlintz, Edw. Steinhauer, Harry Reber, Geo. Knecht, and Harry Geanslen. While the Corps members were assigned, two to each command in the regiment, influence brought by Pottsvillians, solidly supported by the members of Co. F, of this city, made it possible for five of the nucleus musicians from the Schuylkill County seat, to be retained as representatives of Co. F., the local unit of the regiment.

The Fourth Regiment Drum Corps participated in the maneuvering and assembling of militia troops at Mt. Gretna during the preliminaries associated with plans laid for the invasion of the Spanish possession of Porto Rico. With the army, that left the rendezvous point, the Corps went and became a part of the division trained at Chickamauga Park, Ga.

At this central point, the Fourth Regiment Drum Corps won fresh laurels for themselves, as well as reflected credit for Pottsville. Gen. Young experienced difficulty in obtaining the exact cadence that he needed for maneuvering the troops. Band after band failed to size up to the requirements. Then the Drum Corps marched before him and his staff in review. Shortly afterward, Sergt. Dewald, leader of the Corps, was summoned to headquarters and received signal recognition by appointment as Chief Division Field Musician. The commission was sent home, and displayed for days in the show window of the late W. H. Mortimer's jewelry store on Centre St.

His commission gave Sergt. Dewald supervision over nine bands and nine drum corps. The leaders of all 18 organizations were required to obtain the proper cadence for maneuvering the troops from him. Of the force, concentrated at Chickamauga Park, the Fourth Regiment was the only one selected to be a part of the Army of Invasion of Porto Rico. Being an integral part of that organization, the Corps accompanied the infantrymen.

The Fourth Regiment Drum Corps was the only musical organization of the Penna. National Guards, which enlisted in the United States Army, 100 percent. The services of the Corps, when they were not required for marching, were devoted to hospital detail work. Like other organizations which participated in that and other wars at the call of their country, the Fourth Regiment Drum Corps practically dropped out of existence after the Spanish-American War. The last time they were together as a Corps was several years ago, when they headed the Fourth Regiment during a review at Mt. Gretna.

Old Home Week Outstanding Event

(From "Pottsville Republican"-"Morning Paper," July 5-7, 1934)

"Old Home Week," one of the outstanding celebrations of Schuylkill county, was held in Pottsville commencing Sept. 2, 1906, and continued until Sept. 6.

It was marked by some of the largest crowds that ever thronged the city and during the five days it was in progress the city was crowded continuously.

Compared with the celebrations of the present day, the observance of over a quarter of a century ago was remarkable not only from the standpoint of the magnitude of the observance, but from the fact that every nook and corner of the county participated. During the five days industrial establishments in the county were at a standstill, the various collieries, Phila. and Reading Coal and Iron shops and the Eastern Steel Mill being idle.

Special trains were operated by the Reading and the Pennsylvania lines from Phila. and north of the mountain points to bring the visitors and the parade participants to Pottsville, and specials were run out of the city late each night, not only along the main line, but eastward to Tamaqua and north as far as Shamokin.

The Pottsville Union Traction Co., operating the network of trolley lines which traversed the lower section of the county, reported that 200,000 passengers were carried during the four days, with the peak being reached on Wednesday, Sept. 5, when 80,000 people rode the cars.

At the end of the celebration it was estimated that about $200,000 had been spent in the city by the visitors.

As a municipal celebration, the "Old Home Week" set a new mark both in preparation and money spent for entertainment. Centre street was decorated from end to end and Garfield Square on Market street was a miniature "Coney Island."

The contract for the decoration of the streets was about $2800; $1000 was spent for the fireworks display and ten of the crack bands of the state were engaged for the period of the celebration, the cost of which was over $6000, a huge sum in 1906.

The street lighting was so extensive that the Edison Illuminating Co., the predecessor of the Penna. Power and Light of the present day, during the observance asked the residents and business houses to turn off their lights so that the necessary current would be available for the decorations and the huge searchlights that swept the skies.

Opened With Church Services

The celebration opened Sunday with services in every church in Pottsville, while the Y. M. C. A. sponsored a service in the Academy of Music, later destroyed by fire.

At 12.01 a. m., Monday, the street lights were turned on and the city cut loose in one of the biggest "whoopee parties" this section has ever had.

The chief burgess Edward S. Stine was kidnapped by the general committee and the town was wide open. Thousands had thronged into the city from every town in the county and no one went to bed. The noise

of the throng down town was reported the following day as being heard in the western sections of the city. Whistles, cowbells and every noisemaking device that could be contrived helped to create the pandemonium that evidenced the location of the county seat. Eight parades were held during the week and the participants were in it for the fun of the thing, as the prize list for the entire week totaled only $600.

Monday was the Labor parade and labor organizations from every section of the county participated, despite the fact that it rained and caused the parade of the school children to be postponed until Thursday.

Tuesday was the civic parade and the cavalcade. The various civic organizations had 2000 in line of march, while an imposing horse show took place on Centre street. The industrial parade which followed was a panorama of the city's business and industries.

Firemen and Military Day

Wednesday was the big parade of the week. It was Firemen and Military Day. Ten companies of the Penna. National Guard were reviewed by Brigadier General C. Bow Dougherty, long a prominent figure in National Guard life, and Major General J. P. S. Gobin. Twenty-five fire companies were in the line of march and York captured the prize for the company coming the longest distance. The fire companies entertained with a lavish hand and the reports note that the Good Intent Co. had Go Forth alley closed for the week so as to be able to entertain its guests.

Thursday, Pottsville had one of the largest school parades in its history, not only from the number of pupils in line, but the schools represented. The records show that 52 schools paraded.

Industrial Parade Immense

When one goes over the observances of the week, the outstanding feature is the industrial parade, which was an almost complete portrayal of the business of Pottsville of that period.

The famous Ringgold Band, of Reading, led the parade.

The Pottsville Supply Co. was in line with three floats, one representing the hardware stocks carried, another the paints, etc., and the third, the high explosives.

Yuengling's Brewery, then, as now, one of the major brewing operations of the state, had a float in line containing 170,000 bottles of beer which sparkled in the sun like an amber pyramid.

Joseph Fisher, contractor, had a model home on at float, while Fred Hoefel, tinsmith, had a complete plumbing shop in line.

Cummings Bros., insurance firm, still in business, were in the parade, while William Prifer, the well known cigar dealer, had a huge cigar under which workmen were making his widely advertised brand as his representation.

Swift and Company advertised its products from three floats, while Payne, the florist, had one made entirely of cut flowers.

Sylvester's had three floats in line carrying a complete display of fresh fruits and vegetables.

E. Deull, the jeweler, in business until a few months ago, had a gaily decorated wagon.

J. K. Schum, barber, whose shop antedated the period of bobbed hair, had his shop mounted on a float with the barbers all busily engaged.

The Paragon Hot Air Furnace Co. had a complete heating unit in operation on its float.

Ginther, the grocer, had a two-story frame house as his presenta-

tion, with pickaninnies sticking their heads out of every window.

C. Messersmith had a crew of men building a log cabin, descriptive of building in 1806, and another crew building a home of the 1906 vintage.

George L. Schrader, of the Pottsville Marble and Granite Works, had a crew of marble cutters at work.

Schoen Brothers, tobacco firm, had twelve girls in white making cigars on one of their two floats; Raring's shoe store had a pony and carriage in line.

Diamond Brothers had a furniture display, while Gately and Brennan, since retired from business, had a complete parlor suite on exhibition.

Louis Miller, one of the few remaining building supply firms of the city, had his gangs at work on floats showing preparations for the foundations of Pottsville homes. George M. Smith, plumber and chief burgess at the time of the celebration, had a bathroom on a float with boys bathing their feet. Wilson May, the contractor and roofer, had a big display of roofing material. Green's jewelry store had the predecessor of their present big clock on a float.

The Royal Wholesale Grocery Co., which was engaged in business on the site of the present Benesch store, had two floats containing ten men, who kept the crowd in a turmoil scrambling after the samples of the firm's products which were distributed.

W. L. Marquardt had two floats in line. This firm, since dissolved, had a complete line of dry goods to represent one store and the "Old Woman Who Lives in a Shoe" to represent its shoe store.

Imschweiler's, still one of the prominent candy firms of the city, had a corps of girls making candy and distributing it to the crowd. Haines. the glove man, had a float containing, as the report stated, "enough gloves to supply a regiment."

James Meade, still in business, and the National Biscuit Co. had extensive displays and distributed samples of their grocery business products.

of business, had a complete laundry outfit in operation on its float.

W. J. Griebsaum, the contractor, also gave the throngs an idea of how a home is built, with his float and workmen.

Britton and Co., which later lost out in the Miehle fire, had five floats in line, one of which was an electric auto. The floats depicted the various household furniture and products handled by the firm.

A model airship was one of the features of this display and attracted wide attention.

Hoover's hardware store, now the site of a furniture store, had a complete kitchen and living room built on its floats.

N. C. Morrison, for years proprietor of a grocery store on the site of the present Sears, Roebuck store, had a Mexican coffee plantation scene to advertise the coffee of which he made a specialty.

The Carpenters' Union had a float in line with a complete carpenter shop in operation.

George Jungkurth, wholesale liquor dealer, who retired when the 18th Amendment went into effect and who has since died, had a float containing a display of the best grades of whiskey as then sold.

The Bricklayers' Union had a float containing the various brick products of the region, but the reporter humorously reported "No one shouted for samples."

The Star clothing house had a float containing a group of children in line.

J. Miehle and Son, whose big store was later wiped out in one of the

most disastrous fires the city has ever had, had five floats in line depicting the five buildings which marked the firm's growth. Two floats carried the sales girls, who were attired in white skirts, red

The Brew Laundry, since gone out shirtwaists and carried red and white parasols.

Levi Hummel, founder of the present L. Hummel's Sons, had three floats depicting the complete furnishings for a house.

Kull, the milkman, had a float in line on which a group of dairymaids prepared the milk, made butter and showed how his milk business was conducted.

Brown, the coal hauler, had a handsome span of horses with a shining load of fresh-mined anthracite as his exhibit.

Refowich Bros., J. I. M., then in the height of their career, had their float giving the visitors the hearty welcome which they always extended. This firm is one of the old timers to recently yield to death.

H. Rubinsky, the Scranton Correspondence School, and the Penn Land Company had floats in line showing their activities. L. T. Brandon, of the well known lumber company, had eight mules hauling mine timber. James Heffner had his workmen on a float demonstrating how he built homes.

Rettig's Brewery emulated the Yuengling firm, except that instead of beer in bottles, it made its pyramid of kegs.

C. F. Seltzer, the harness man, had his wooden gray horse on a float. This horse was used much in succeeding years and only recently was a part of a display of an old stove "round up" by the Pottsville Gas Co.

James Kingsbury, tea merchant and one of the best known of Pottsville's citizens and former postmaster, had a Japanese tea garden as his contribution to the parade.

George Moyer and Frank Bausum, the former still a clothier, although the latter has retired from the clothing game, had their big store of a quarter-century ago represented with a fine float.

Curry Bros., since retired from the jewelry business, had a big clock and the forerunner of the wrist watch in line to show their ability to handle anything in the clock repairing line.

The Coal and Iron machine shops, now reduced to a mere handful, had 175 men with a complete machine shop in line. The moulders had 75 men as their portion of the section. The electric shop had a miniature power plant in operation, while the blacksmiths paraded 75 men and a blacksmith shop in line. The boiler men with a boiler on a float made the town echo as their sledges resounded along the route of parade. The car shop men constructed a complete mine car during the course of the parade.

The Sailor Planing Mill, still one of the town's big lumber houses, had two floats in line.

Paul's music store, now operated in a new location by Howard I. Paul, son of L. M. Paul, had a piano and soloist on a float, together with a big display of the now discarded gramophones, replaced by the radio. W. B. Fegley, another of the merchants who has passed into history, had a complete line of hats on display.

The committee in charge of the celebration was as follows: General Chairman, C. P. Hoffman, Mgr., G. M. Britton Co.; Vice Chairman, A. W. Schalck, Atty. At Law; Secy., Wm. H. Ent, "Daily Republican" staff; Treas., John W. Conrad, Justice of the Peace.

The chairmen of committees forming the Executive Committee were as follows: K. C. Wilson, Land Agent for P. & R. C. & I. Co., Finance; C. H. Sunday, Agent P. & R. Co., Transportation; S. B. Edwards, Atty. At Law, Program and Amusements; A. W. Schalck, Atty at Law, Publicity; Rev. S. L. Whitmore, D. D., Trinity Reformed Church, Religious Exercises; Capt. E. D. Smith, Atty. at Law, Parade; Geo. Jungkurth, merchant, Hotels and Accommodations; J. H. Zerbey, Editor "Republican", Invitation; W. Ed. Bearstler, salesman, Emblem and Advertising; Chas. Haussmann, Manager of Academy of Music, Decoration and Attractions; Frederick Gerhard, Leader Third Brigade Band, Music; John Stout, carpenter. Trades and Unions; John Johnson, Letter Carrier, Prizes and Premiums; Ed. S. Stine, Burgess, Borough Representative.

The committees and sub-chairmen were as follows: Finance, K. C. Wilson, Chairman; F. S. Freiler, J. N. Hodgson, J. J. McKinstry, John Raring, G. C. Schrink, W. L. Marquardt, H. J. Herbein, Israel Rubinsky, S. H. Gore, W. F. Scheerer, W. E. Lecher, D. C. Pritchard, Levi Hummel, W G. Seltzer, Sr., J. W. Fleet, J. A. Medlar, John Hock and Daniel Duffy.

Appeals: Daniel Duffy, Chairman; H. J. Herbein, F. S. Freiler, G. C. Schrink and S. H. Gore.

Invitation and Reception: J. H. Zerbey, Chairman; Chas. Meyers, O. P. Bechtel, A. L. Shay, A. W. Sheafer, S. H. Kaercher, W. K. Woodbury, F. G. Clemens, C. A. Snyder, D. H. Seibert, J. S. Ulmer, F. W. Boyer, J. M. Harris, W. D. Pollard, C. G. Miller, J. Miehle, W. M. Faussett, J. H. Zimmerman, A. H. Halberstadt, A. Robertson, W. McQuail, W. A. Hewes, E. L. Herndon, G. E. Farquhar, W. H. Lewis and W. F Shepherd.

Program and Amusement: S. B. Edwards, Chairman; W. C. Wilson, R. A. Freiler, M. H. Spicker, G. W. Ryon, John Dengler, Chas. Haussmann, Percival Boltz and John Johnson.

Fireworks: A. B. Cochran, Chairman; P. D. Helms, Chas. Haussmann, Paul Dengler and W. B. Fegley.

Old Home Week Ball: T. P. Powers, Chairman; E. M. Burgan, C. A. Whitehouse, Henry Dirschedl and Prof. B. S. Simonds.

Transportation: C. H. Sunday, Chairman; W. E. Bussom, Harry Keiber, F. B. Lasher, W. C. Folweiler, G. F. Moore and J. O. Spotts

Decorations and Attractions: Chas. Haussmann, Chairman; W. L. Schmidt, G. Greenwald, W. G. Allan, F. L. Cooch, H. Dirschedl, John Murphy, Hiram Davies, H. Jungkurth and C. Messersmith.

Publicity: A. W. Schalck, Chairman; E. L. Clifford, R. C. Shearer, August Knecht, Fred Wetter, Sr., F. C. O'Connor, D. C. Henning, D. G. Lubold and G. B. Stichter.

Music: Frederick Gerhard, Chairman; C. D. Rishel, Clyde Allan, A. D. Knittle, Geo. Seltzer, F. A. Lotz, R. S. Hormann, S. W. Unger, Leo Schwartz and Claude Hartzell.

Emblem and Advertising: W. Ed. Bearstler, Chairman; H. C. Hoffman, P. L. Knowlton, J. A. Bechtel, Fred Wetter, Jr., J. Refowich and A. J. Benson.

Religious Exercises: Rev. S. L. Whitmore, D. D., Chairman; E. V. Jones, Daniel Nagle, P. K. Filbert, Adam Dietrich, W. H. Warmkessel, M. H. Spicker, C. E. Snyder, J. H. Zimmerman, J. D. Randolph, Conrad Hock, H. J. Herbein and the ministers of the respective congregations.

Trades and Unions and Labor Day: John Stout, Chairman; Fred Shoenfelder, Harry Hill, Harry Helms, Roy Hartlein, Jas. Hunter, John Hayes, Jere Brennan, D. J. Davis, Frank Hoffman, Guy Reinhart and S. M. F. Glover.

Hotels and Accommodations: G. W. Jungkurth, Chairman; D. McGuigan, Wm. Gould, R. E. Coogan, W. H. Kline, F. Bonawitz, J. H. Dinger and H. J. Ney.

Prizes and Premiums: John Johnson, Chairman; H. W. Lord, Geo. Moyer, Jas. Kingsbury and Wm. Prifer.

Parades: Capt. E. D. Smith, Chairman.

Cavalcade and Corso: Dr. Frank McCarthy, Harry Halberstadt, Jos. H. Nichter, Dr. Swaving, Will Boone and George Smith.

Civic: E. S. Stine, Chairman; H. S. Davies, G. C. Schrink, J. N. Rich. Philip Bomm, J. G. Lowrey, G. W. Jungkurth, J. R. Saylor, C. G. Reed, Frank Gottschall, C. L. Eberle, G S. Streigel, J. A. Noecker, Johnathan Miller, E. J. Wildermuth, Geo Wertley, Nicholas Mies, G. J. Smith, W. H. Sterner, W. D. Williams, J. F. Hanney, T. J. Brennan, Leonard Schuettler.

Industrial Division: F. L. Cooch, Chairman; H. L. Hooppes, C. J. Reith, W. B. Straub, G. D. Roseberry, J. M. Harris, A. W. Sterner, W. A. Womer, J. A. Krieg, G. J. Smith, I. B. Dyer, F. H. Hause.

Floats: Wm. A. Womer, W. D. Williams, Walter Straub, E. S. Stine, J. R. Saylor.

Autos: John Reber, Chairman.

Military Division: Col. N. S. Halberstadt, Chairman; Major John Owens, Major G. H. Farquhar, Capt. J. W. Hoepstine, Capt. G. R. Kalbach, Capt. Baird Halberstadt, Lieut. G. W. Farquhar, Col. Daniel Nagle, Col. D. N. Mellon, A. L. Eckert, Capt. Geo. Dyson, Frank Bannan, Chas. Kershner and H. F. Graeff.

Firemen: Timothy Sullivan, Chairman; John Bushar, A. H. Wilson, W. W. Martin, H. L. Goulden, W. W. Martin, C. F. Muehlhof, Jas. Lynaugh.

Mardi Gras: H. H. Seltzer, Chairman; E. L. Cake, Samuel Potts, T. F. Hopkins, W. Quinlan, R. J. Mills, Dr. J. H. Swaving, Dr. J. W. Seltzer, Dr. G. W. Farquhar, J. T. Werner, C. A. Whitehouse, E. M. Burgan and D. D. Moore.

Centennial Celebration Held in 1911

(From "Pottsville Republican"-"Morning Paper," July 9, 1934)

Following closely upon the "Old Home Week" celebration held in September of 1907, Pottsville staged the 100th anniversary of its founding in July 1911. The celebration opened Sunday, July 2nd and continued until the following Saturday. At one time or another during the week, Pottsville was visited by large groups from every town and city in the eastern section of the state.

The late J. H. Zerbey, President of the J. H. Zerbey Newspapers Inc., was chairman of the committee, assisted by vice presidents, Daniel Duffy, C. P. Hoffman, and Charles Haussmann. W. H. Ent was secretary and W. L. Marquardt chairman of the finance committee C. A. Snyder, then state senator, was chairman of the committee on distinguished guests.

Other chairmen included David H. Seibert of the Penna. National Bank; Atty. A. W. Schalck, Albert A. Hesser, Reading Co. station agent; Charles Meyers, newspaper proprietor; Livingston Seltzer, widely known educator; Jacob S. Ulmer, packer and bank head; Walter Wertley, lumberman and builder; Terrias Hummel, of the Merchants Association; Prof. Frederic Gerhard, widely known band leader and musician; Dr. Henry Dirschedl, Harry R. Foster, retired plumber, James A. Lynaugh, Fire Chief; Wm S. Leib, widely known insurance man and politician; Dr. T. W Swalm, Wm. C. Green, Jeweler, Edward L. Keane, head of the P. & R. C. & I. Clerks; Pierce Mortimer, merchant; Chief Burgess, George J. Smith, W. L. Stevenson, city labor leader; Chief of Police, Hiram S. Davies; Dr. G. R. S. Corson, widely known specialist; Oscar Hummel of the Hummel furniture store; Atty. Julian Pilgram, James Evans, well known fraternal society representative; H. G. Mellon, Captain of Co F., Fourth Regiment; William A. Womer, former business man and poor director; Jacob Gellert, real estate and insurance; Howard Paul musician and music store proprietor; E. S. Stevens, widely known fire company representative; Gustav Rees of the Dives, Pomeroy and Stewart Store; H. P. Jacobs, of Atlantic Refining Co.; H. C. Manbeck of the Miehle Store; Atty. Geo. W. Ryon, Col. Daniel Nagle, widely known Mexican and Civil War Veteran; James J. Moran, attorney and real estate man.

George B. Stichter, former P. & R. C. & I. auditor; D. S. Gressang, National Guardsman; Dr. J. B. Rodgers, president of the Board of Health; Dr. F. H. McCarthy, Veterinarian; George W. Jungkurth, merchant; Frank J. Fitch, Merchants Association; A. L. Shay, President Judge; W. B. Rockwell head of the Traction Co.; Frank Bausum, merchant and G. T. Burd, real estate and insurance.

As was the case during the Old Home Week Celebration, the city was lavishly decorated for the occasion, the decorations outdoing those of 1907, which up to that time had set the record for affairs of this kind in the county.

Railroad transportation into the city was doubled, tripled and qua-

drupled and as in 1907, special trains were run in all directions. The industries of the county closed for the week.

Special services marked Sunday the opening day in all the churches and the official opening came at midnight when 10,000 lights strung along the streets were switched on. Five powerful searchlights swept the skies from the top of the P. & R. C. & I. building.

One of the big features of the celebration was the musical arrangements, band concerts being held in every section of the city All of the crack bands of the eastern section of the state were in the city at one time or another during the week.

On the night of July 4th, the city had one of the most spectacular fireworks displays in its history, the display being fired from Lawton's Hill.

The first big parade of the week took place on Monday when over 3,000 of the school children participated in one of the finest school parades the city has ever witnessed. The schools parade as units from the different buildings and each section vied for the distinction of making the best appearance. All of the children were costumed in colorful habiliments. Yorkville paraded as Indians; St. John's paraded as German Settlers; The Grammar School was a combination of the "Spirit of 76," soldiers and Red Cross nurses. The Garfield building was colonial while Jalappa and Fishbach paraded in a Zouave combination of red and white. The St Patrick's school was attired in pink and green. The Minersville St school dressed in the required colors paraded as a living flag.

Following the parade, the executive officers conducted the opening services on the court house plaza.

July 4th was observed chiefly as a holiday with sporting events, automobile contests and an auto run throughout the county. Special events were also held at the then popular resort, Tumbling Run. Wednesday, July 5th, was marked by a parade of the fraternal and civic societies of the city and a big turn out by the city firms of their horses in a Cavalcade.

Four lodges of the Odd Fellows and the Rebekahs, two camps of the P. O. S. of A.; Jr. O. U. A. M.; Order of Independent Americans; Owls and Redmen were among the fraternal organizations participating. The cavalcade brought entries from over 200 individuals and firms, chief among the number being the fire company teams, now a matter of history, since motor vehicles supplanted the horse drawn apparatus. The Good Intent Company displayed the first motor driven fire truck in the county. Many of the firms entered have also long since abandoned their horses for motor driven trucks and delivery wagons.

Thursday was the industrial parade in which over fifty of the town firms were represented. A feature of the parade was that of the Britton-Hoffman company which had an "Authentic Logcabin" on exhibition fitted out with antiques obtained through the efforts of Dr. Herbein. A list of the participants showed little variation from the business firms of four years before

Friday marked the biggest military parade ever held in the county before or since that time. It was headed by the city and state police forces with C. P. Hoffman and Col Daniel Nagle and the entire executive committee as aides. The parade lists showed the following military units in line—Three companies of the U. S. Naval Battalion, from Phila., under Commander L. W. Osterhaus, Brigadier General; J. B.

Coryell and Staff, Fourth Infantry Col. C. T. O'Neil and staff—Major E. C. Shannon; Company A., Read ing; Co. B, Allentown; Co. D, Allentown; Co. E, Hamburg; Second Battalion, Major F. D. Beary, Co. F, Pottsville; Co. G, Pinegrove, Co. I, Reading. Eighth Regiment—Capt. R. E. Hobart, commanding, Co. B, Tamaqua; Co. E, Mahanoy City; Co. H, Pottsville.

Sixth Regiment, First Battalion, Maj. J. P. Ewing Commanding—Co. A, Pottstown; Co. D, Phoenixville; Co. E, Phila.; Co. F, Norristown; Second Battalion, Maj. S. O. Wynne, Commanding—Co. G, Doylestown; Co. K, Phila.; Co. I, Phila.; Co. M, Phila.

A feature of the military gathering was the reunion of the various organizations of the war veterans held the same day. The first Defenders and the Ninety-sixth Regiment held their reunion as did the Spanish-American War Veterans. Over 200 of the veterans attended the dinner given in their honor at the Methodist Church.

Railroad reports placed the size of the crowd in the city during the day at close to the 150,000 mark.

Probably one of the finest parades of the week, was the firemen's held on Saturday and which brought the celebration to a close. All of the fire companies of the lower section of the county participated. As noted above, the Good Intent Company paraded with the first piece of motor apparatus in the county and in the same line was the hose cart of the Old Atkin's Company of Fishbach.

Martin Davis, wearing the first helmet of a Pottsville fire chief, was among the notables in line of march as were Hugh Stevenson, Charles Candee, and J. D. Knoll of the American Hose, all three members of the old Rough and Ready Company.

The weather during the week was fair in comparison with the rainy weather experienced during Old Home Week, but the temperature was well up in the nineties, the heat being terrific. According to the press reports the entire nation was under the spell of a heat wave.

Jewish Congregation Formed Here in 1856

(From "Pottsville Republican"-"Morning Paper," July 10-11, 1934)

The Oheb Zedeck congregation dates back more than a quarter of a century after this community was incorporated into a borough. It was 78 years ago, in the month of October, 1856, that the Jewish residents of Pottsville organized themselves into a congregation.

It was a group of ten recently immigrated German Jews who decided to meet for the purpose of religious worship. Application was made for a charter which was granted under the name of the "Oheb Zedeck Congregation."

The first officers were: Emanuel Strouse, President; and Jacob Schloss, Vice President. The original charter members comprised: Emanuel Strouse, Jacob Schloss, Jacob Greenwald, Abraham Loeb, Abram Reiff, Samuel Isberger, L. Harris, M. Greenwald, Emanuel Abrahams.

The congregation is now served by the following officers: Harry Diamond, President; H. L. Eber, Vice Pres.; Eugene Eichenbaum, Recording Secy.; N. Antokolitz, Fin. Secy.; Samuel March, Treas.; Abe Friedman, Harry Weiner, J. S. Rosenzweig, H. Greenfield, Roy Freedline, A. Goldberg and I. Rudnick, Trustees; Rabbi, Morris G. Silk; Cantor, Rev. Lewis Rosen; Hebrew Teacher, H. Leavitt.

Having recognized the necessity of absolute unity, ground was procured for a cemetery on North Centre St., at the top of the turnpike. The next step was to arrange for meetings These were conducted in the respective homes of the founders of the new congregation. For three years they continued to worship, in this manner, on every Friday night and Saturday morning.

Then they were able to rent the old Thompson Hall for $300 per year. Rabbi Isaac Straus was installed as the initial spiritual guide of the little flock. This Rabbi provided the congregation with the first Sefer Thorah, or Holy Book.

By 1861, there were 20 families embraced by the congregation. When President Abraham Lincoln issued his call for volunteers, during that year, at the outbreak of the Civil War, Abe Kuhn asked for men, from the little congregation to enlist for service and five responded, were accepted and gave active service throughout the internecine strife.

Perusal of the early books, recording the minutes of the meetings of the founders of the congregation, furnished through the courtesy of the committee which prepared the historical facts used in the booklet issued in connection with the celebration of the 70th anniversary of the congregation, during 1926 or the year 5687, according to ancient Jewish reckoning, shows that it was customary for a change of officers every few months thus granting all the privilege of, at some time, sharing in governing the affairs of the congregation.

During the Civil War and after the end of that strife, in 1865, the members of the Pottsville congregation gave aid, through special committees, to alleviate the sufferings of wounded by placing them in institutions and in many other ways. They also aided in giving financial assistance. Everything that they took up, in this connection, was handled in a thorough manner.

Such was the appreciation shown for their endeavors that it was the subject of favorable comment by Governor Pollack.

Mayor Henry, of Phila., forwarded the following communication to Rabbi Oppenheim, under date of

June 9, 1865, voicing further appreciation:

Philadelphia, June 9, 1865.
"My Dear Reverend Oppenheim:
"I had the pleasure of this day receiving from you, by the Mayor of our city, the sum of $255.75, being the amount of your subscription to the United States Soldiers' and Sailors' Home of Pennsylvania for which I return to you our thanks.
"Signed:
"H. MARTIN,
"Secretary."

Rabbi Oppenheim's advent to Pottsville is not shown by any available records. However, he was buried in the Oheb Zedeck Cemetery. He was held in such high esteem that during his funeral, all business places, regardless of creeds, were closed.

The records of the primitive congregation also refer to Vice President Jacobs, father of the late Mrs. Max Gellert, and of the late Louis Jacobs, as active in serving the congregation.

Under the leadership of Rev. Dr. David Einhorn and Rev. Dr. Isaac M. Wise, there came a nation-wide split in Jewish congregations following their suggestions for a new ritual for services in the synagogues. In Pottsville, as elsewhere, the rift appeared and the reform element won. This schism occurred in 1868 and, two years later, the Pottsville congregation of 20 members purchased a plot of ground which is the site of the present synagogue, on Arch, then known as Callowhill Street, near Third St. The ground cost the congregation $7,000.

Purchased a Building

In 1875 there was purchased from the Evangelical Association, a frame building, comprising two rooms. It was removed to the new site and was reconverted into the first synagogue. The building was at one time occupied by the Primitive Methodists. The little church was used for worship and meetings for a period of 18 years.

In the meantime, there having been a continuous influx of immigrants from Russia and Poland, between 1870 and 1888, they formed congregations for orthodox worship, one of them, the Kenezzes Israel group who met in a building, on West Market, above Tenth Street, and the other on Eleventh Street. Rabbi Moses Phillips served the latter congregation for five years, was called to other fields and then recalled for another pastorate of five years. He was the head and senior member of the firm of the Phillips-Jones Co. Rabbi Phillips came from Suwalk, Poland, where he was born in 1844. He received his Rabbinical training, there, completing his studies at the age of 15. His family is credited with having done much for the Jewish people of Pottsville. His late son, Isaac L. Phillips, was instrumental, in his time, in accomplishing much in Jewish enterprise here, inaugurating many activities.

The congregation, which worshipped on West Arch Street, was served by Rabbis Isaac Strouse and N. Schlesinger, each having a tenure of three years. The Rev. Charles Austrian connected with the congregation the institution of a Hebrew and German school which was taught by him. He also established two beneficial societies, the Union Lodge, of the Independent Order of B'nai B'rith and the Mountain City Lodge Free Sons of Israel.

About 1898, it was found impossible to continue to exist and progress without unity. Amalgamation was decided upon at a meeting in which Israel Gellert, Harris Rubinsky, Adolph Prince and Philip Yedinsky participated. Since that time there has been only one synagogue in Pottsville.

When the Spanish-American War broke out many of the young men of the Jewish race responded for service

some of them sacrificing their lives to diseases contracted in that brief war.

Immigration continued to increase, many of the newcomers settling in and about Pottsville. The two rooms used for worship were inadequate. Under H. L. Eber, there was inaugurated a movement to erect a new synagogue. The officers associated with these activities were: H. L. Eber, President; H. Kamenetsky, Vice Pres.; H. Diamond, Secy.; Charles Diamond, Asst. Secy.; H. Rubinsky, I. Gellert, J. Rothstein, I Brenner, H. L. Rosenzweig and S. Bergstein, Trustees; Philip Yedinsky, Charles Diamond, M. Levy and L. Refowich, Soliciting Committee.

Plan to Erect New Synagogue

The Oheb Zedeck congregation planned to erect a new synagogue, on the West Arch Street site, on October 12, 1911. No action was taken on the matter, however, until some time later. It was on May 4, 1913, at a meeting of the congregation, that the final decision was made to go ahead with the erection of a synagogue.

The full finance committee appointed was: Philip Yedinsky, J. H. Rothstein, C. Diamond, S. Rosenzweig, H. L. Eber, E. Deull and I. Refowich. As the building committee there were named: H. Rubinsky, S. Bergstein, I. Gellert, H. L. Eber, J. H. Rothstein and M. Refowich.

The cornerstone of the temple of worship was laid on Sunday afternoon, Dec. 28. H. Rubinsky formally laid the stone and Jacob Rothstein made the opening address Rabbi Neuman, of Philadelphia, delivered an impressive sermon.

It was on Sunday, Aug. 30th, 1914, that the new synagogue was dedicated. The members of the congregation met in the Y. M. H. A. rooms at 1:45 o'clock in the afternoon and marched in a body to the new place of worship.

H. L. Eber, president of the congregation, delivered the address of welcome. He was succeeded by Jacob Rothstein. Then Rev. Dr. Morais, of New York City, spoke in English, and Rev. Masliansky of the same city, addressed the congregation in the Hebrew tongue. The inspiring singing on the occasion was in charge of Rabbi N. D. Newhard, of the local congregation.

The new synagogue cost $25,000. The facade is of mottled grey pressed brick.

A tablet, on the wall, at the entrance to the Synagogue, of white marble, carries the names of the officers, trustees of the congregation and the building committee. Two of the promoters of the new place of worship, Harris Rubinsky and Israel Rubinsky, died before they saw the completion of the synagogue.

There are inscribed on the tablet: H. L. Eber, President; H, Kamenetsky, Vice Pres,; H. Diamond, Secy. M, Refowich, E. Deull, M. Rothstein, Officers of the Congregation; H. Rubinsky, Chairman, I. Gellert, J. Rothstein, I. B. Brenner, H. L. Rosenzweig, S. Bergstein, Building Committee; Philip Yedinsky, Chairman, C. Diamond, L. Refowich, M. Levy and J. Wiener, Soliciting Committee.

Served in World War

In 1913 many youths of the congregation responded to the call of President Woodrow Wilson for service in the World War. The following constitute the honor list: Sol. Spicker, Harry Cohen, Harry Holstein, Harry J. Weiner, Moses Eber, Ben Eber, Dr. Alfred Bergstein, Milton Bergstein, Emanuel Yedinsky, Louis Rosenzweig, Leo Lefkowitz, Abe Lefkowitz, Jacob Weiner, Louis Seaman, Abe Gittleman, Jacob Cohen, Louis Flatto and Jacob Gable.

In 1918 the Pottsville congregation participated in the campaign instituted by the Jewish Distribution Committee, of New York City, to aid the boys who had seen service overseas and also for the war sufferers The local committee comprised: M. Spicker, Chairman; Jacob Gellert, Sec.; and S. S. Weiss, Treas. The movement, in this city, resulted in there being raised $9,000. The same committee carried the canvass into Shenandoah, Tamaqua and Ashland, their zeal and hard work resulting in a total of $17,000, being raised for the cause in Schuylkill County.

H. Diamond acted as marshal of the Jewish contingent which was represented in the Armistice Parade, marking the close of the World War. From the local Hebrew men, who enlisted for the preservation of democracy, Sol. Spicker was killed overseas and Harry Cohen, an enlisted man, died at Fort Sheridan, Illinois. Cohen's body was among the first brought home to Schuylkill County. and it was buried in Pottsville, with full military honors. The body of Spicker lies among the poppies of France "over there."

On June 14, 1920, the local congregation conducted an inspiring pageant in celebration of the Balfour Declaration restoring to the Hebrews their fatherland of Palestine. About 1,000 local Jews, with Pottsville's Third Brigade Band, followed by contingents representing Hazleton, Shenandoah, Mahanoy City, Mt. Carmel, Coaldale and Lansford, marched in a great demonstration.

Miss E. Chinitz impersonated "America"; Miss Diamond typified the Jewish nation; Misses Levy, Kamenetsky and Antokolitz symbolized England, France and Italy, respectively. The Jewish flag was carried, for the first time, in the history of the city.

After the parade, a mass meeting was conducted in the synagogue. The speakers were: Rabbis Ezralowitz, of New York City; Rabbi Gobba, of Philadelphia; Pottsville's first Mayor, F. Pierce Mortimer, and Prof. B. S. Simonds. Among others who delivered addresses were: Judges H. O. Bechtel and R. H. Koch.

During Benjamin Rosenson's regime as head of the local congregation, for the first time in the history of the congregation, girls were confirmed. The Rabbi's lamented death occurred on December 4, 1921. Rabbi Haas, of Reading, in charge of the congregation at Harrisburg, delivered the funeral oration.

Mortgage Was Burned

During 1921 the congregation, under S. Bergstein, held a bazaar in the Armory to raise $10,000 in order to permit of the burning of the mortgage on the Oheb Zedeck synagogue. By untiring zeal on the part of Louis Holstein, general chairman; Milton Lilienthal, General Secy.; and Harry Weiner, General Treas.; aided by Trustees Harry Diamond, Charles Diamond, Joseph Harrison, Jacob Refowich, Harry Harris, Samuel Gittleman, Abe Weiner, Milton Gable, Moses Refowich, Morris Spicker, Louis Marks, Max Lewin, Jacob Gable and Samuel Seaman, also all the women of the congregation, the project being splendidly supported by the general public, the feat was accomplished. Just prior to the close of a jubilee celebration, at the State Armory, G. Cohen, of West End Ave., burned the mortgage at the synagogue.

Led by Louis Holstein, President, the membership of the congregation showed splendid increase. Additions and alterations were continually made to the temple of worship. H. Diamond, L. Holstein, I. Chinitz, J. Lightstone, H. L. Eber, M. Spicker, L. Refowich, H. Weiner, S. Bergstein, L. Eber, J. Rosenzweig and I. Weiner re-

built the vestry rooms to suitably house the Hebrew school and Community Center. The cemetery was improved and beautified under the direction of J. Lightstone.

It was on August 15, 1925, that Rabbi Herman J. Beck, of Sunbury, was elected spiritual advisor for the congregation. He organized the Ein Jacob and Mishnayotch Clubs. Then came the reorganization of the Sunday School and seven teachers were elected. The Ladies' Aid Society became one of the bulwarks of the congregation.

L. Mirkin, principal of the Hebrew School, reorganized junior congregational work. The School consists of four classes and members of the oldest class are able to recite from the Prophets. Charles Diamond was also a capable executive of the Hebrew School. His death occurred on January 22, 1922, at the age of 41 years.

The Hebrew School is conducted by a board of education appointed by the president of the synagogue. J. Rosenzweig, Chairman of the Board of Education, contributed much to make the Hebrew School a successful institution.

Rabbi Beck solved the financial question, after Seder services were inaugurated by him, organizing a community budget by which method $21,000 was raised and the congregation given a sound financial basis.

Personal contributions by Sol. Weiss, William Weiss, S. S. Weiss, Jr., Sol. Prince, Isadore Prince, and Jacob Zimmerman canceled the debt incurred by the altering additions made to the synagogue. To the memory of S. S. Weiss. some time after his untimely death, there was dedicated a window in the synagogue.

The Rev. A. Chaseman, who served as Chason Mohel, gave valuable duty as Cantor.

On the evening of February 18, 1929, the new Community Center was formally dedicated and the Purim Ball was conducted there.

Rabbi Morris G. Silk started his efficient service in charge of the Oheb Zedeck congregation on Sept. 6, 1929.

During recent years, there was interest taken in the Boy Scouts movement which resulted in the organization of a strong Troop, from among the youths of the congregation. It is officered by: Jack Goldberg, Scoutmaster; Sonny Minker, Asst. Scoutmaster; Eugene E. Eichenbaum, Committee Troop Chairman; Dr. Leon Miller, Rabbi Morris G. Silk, Harry Tapper, Saul Prince and Nat D. Tuckerman, Members of Scouts' Committee.

Active Organizations

Aiding in the work of the congregation, the following organizations served throughout most of the long period of history of the Hebrews in this community: Sisterhood, Women's Council, Hadassah, Ladies' Benevolent Aid Society, and Chevrah Kadisha and in recent years, the Boy Scouts. Several of these societies have ceased to function having been merged into other branches of the congregational activities.

It was in 1909 that the Oheb Zedeck Sisterhood was organized with these officers: Mrs. M. Refowich, President; Mrs. E. Deull, Vice Pres. Mrs. L. Holstein, Secy.; Mrs. L. Refowich, Treas.; Mrs. Muscowish, Mrs. Kalmonson and Mrs. H. L. Eber, Trustees.

The present officers are: Mrs. Celia Cooper, President; Mrs. Max Rudnick, Vice Pres.; Mrs. Isadore Prince, Recording Secy.; Mrs. Sol. Weiss, Corresponding Secy.; Mrs. Harry Tapper, Treasurer.

With the following officers, the Ezras Achim Lodge sprang into existence. on Sept. 23, 1906: J. Rosenzweig, President; I. Rudnick, Vice Pres.; H. Kamenetsky, Secy.; H. Cotter, Treas.; B. Snyder, L. Duble-

stein, S. Havison, A. Yarowsky, H. Martin, S. March, M. Kutcher, and A. Solomon, Trustees.

The officers who serve today are: H. Rosenzweig, of Ashland, President A. Yarowsky, of Minersville, Vice Pres.; Joseph Schreiber, Secy.; E. Liner, Treas.; Samuel March, Harry Cottler, H. Lappin, of Minersville, H Greenfield and M. Kutcher, Trustees.

The Hadassah was instituted by Mrs. A. Slomko, of New York City. on April 29, 1923, when these officers were chosen: Mrs. H. Diamond, President; Mrs. M. Robins, Vice Pres.; Miss Rose Chaseman, Corresponding Secy.; Mrs. L. H. Altschuler, Recording and Financial Secy.; and Mrs. J. Rosenzweig, Treas.

Looking after the affairs of the organization today are: Mrs. A. Friedman, President; Mrs. M. Moskovitz, Vice Pres.; Mrs. Harry Weiner, Secy.; Mrs. Harry Steinberger, Treas.

The Ladies Benevolent Society dates its origin back to 1911, being later known as the Ladies' Auxiliary. The first officers elected were: Mrs. H. L. Eber, President; Mrs. E. Deull, Vice Pres.; Miss B. Fine, Secy.; Mrs A. Fine, Treasurer.

Serving the Society, at present, are: Mrs. L. M. Eber, President; Mrs. Samuel Seaman, Vice Pres.; Mrs. Nathaniel Rouse, Secy.; Mrs. Anna Fine, Treasurer.

Union Lodge No. 124 Order of B'Nai ·B'Rith had an existence of more than a half century. Its membership dwindled to a single member. Then, on January 13, 1915, it was revived and officers were elected as follows: Leon Miller, President; Harry Gittleman, Vice Pres.; Milton Bergstein, Recording and Financial Secy.; Ellis Deull, Treas.; Jacob Gellert and Louis Supowich, Trustees; James Miller, Outer Guard and Morris Noble, Inner Guard.

The organization is thriving under the following officers today: J. H. Rothstein, President; Arthur Schrager, Vice Pres.; David Gellert, Recording Secy.; N. Antokolitz, Financial Secy.; Israel Prince, Treas.; Dr. H. O. Hoffman, First Monitor; Nat. D. Tuckerman, Second Monitor; A. Friedman, Third Monitor.

The Jewish Women's Council was organized on January 15, 1915. Among the first officers were: Mrs. S. Weingert, President; Mrs. B. Rifkin, Recording Secy.; and Mrs. M. Spicker, Corresponding Secretary.

All of the Jewish organizations of Pottsville, on May 5, 1918, established the Zionist District. The original officers were: H. Diamond, President; H. Kamenetsky, Secy. and H. L. Eber, Treasurer. This organization works along identical lines with the general Zionist movement in America.

After the death of Rabbi Rosenson, on Dec. 4, 1921, under the direction of J. Lightstone, who was its chairman, a committee was named, with 18 members, to look after the cemetery, (Chevrah Kadisho) of the congregation. The officers early in charge of the cemetery were: J. Lightstone Chairman; M. Diamond. Vice Chairman; H. L. Eber, Treasurer; and H. Kamenetsky, Secretary.

The Y. M. H. A. was organized, in 1897, with B. S. Pollack as President and M. Spicker as Vice Pres. This organization fostered the Sunday School movement. It was on Aug. 16, 1923, that a more successful organization was effected. The reorganization committee comprised: Michael Hanin, Leib Rudnik, Jack Chinitz, Bertram Kirschbaum and Dr. H. O. Hoffman. The first meeting, of the latter year, was held in the Community Center, on Arch Street.

Many Events In Life of Good Intent

(From "Pottsville Republican"-"Morning Paper," July 12-19, 1934)

On Oct. 5, 1846, the Good Intent Co. No. 1, of the Pottsville Fire Dept. had its birth. The incorporation of the company was on Feb. 2, 1860.

The first efforts to organize were made during the early fall. This was because the community fire-fighting organizations were considered inadequate.

Benj. Haywood placed an enrollment paper in the hands of D. B. Strauch, an apprentice in the Haywood and Snyder shops, and he circulated it among the employes of the plant to procure signers. The qualifications were that "none but respectable, industrious and sober young men" would be accepted.

In the initial enrollment of the company appear the following names: Thos. F Beatty, Jas. W. Bowen, Albert Silliman, Nelson Mortimer, Wm. Beidleman, A. L. Moorehead, Jacob Feltnagle, W. W. Jones, Adam Eiler, Francis Rowbottom, Adam Smith, M. Mull. Isaac Barkly, Wm. Vaughn, John Till, Wm. Hendrick, Thos. Mullen, Frederick Betz, Chas. McCord, Robt. Allison.

Wm. Johns, Henry Bell, Garret L. Vliet, Chas. Kaercher, John Gable, Saml. T. Skeen, Frederick A. Ent, Chas. P. Perry, Edw. O'Connor, Jas. McBarnes, Jas. Mears, Martin Murphy, John Rowbottom, Vincent Hanley, Geo. Hanley, Geo. Minnich, John Kellar, Augustus Ehler, E. B. Jackson, John Spohn.

Edw. Overbrook, Wm. Hyde, Wm. Christian, Isaiah P. Lykens, Morgan Silliman, Franklin P. Kaercher, John E. Wynkoop, F. P. Myers, John G. Brown, Thos. Fender, R. C. Green, Daniel Esterly, Henry Shelly, W. H. Hill, J. S. Yoder, Howell Fisher, Washington Garrett, Bernard Quinn, Dr. Leib, Chas. Clark, Edw. McDonald, Geo. Frost, Graver Glassmire, Edw. H. Sillyman.

R. D. Shoener, D. Brill, Dr. M. Depuy, Walter Jenkins, S. Clark, Daniel Nagle, Henry Weber, John Little, Wm. Mortimer, Jr., Geo. Stitchter, J. C. C. Hughes, L. Behr, Robt. Evans, O. D. Jenkins, Jas. Patterson, Chas. Boehm, Edw. Patterson, David James, Francis Alstaat, Ash McClain, John Leavit, Henry Shollenberger, Jos. Afflick, Benj. Combes, James Wren, Robt. McCormick.

Milton Levette, Chas. Schloss, Jas. K. Boyd, Alex Silliman, F. R. Silliman, G. Halberstadt, W. W. Wolf, Wm. Doubty, Richard Pott, John Lewis, Brice Hudson, J. M. Laird, Theo. Thompson, D. B. Strauch, J. W. Brewer, C. McNamee, J. Winegardner, Enoch Thomas, B. M. Miller, Geo. Fox, John Gabriel, John Head, Jas. Smith, John Derr, Robt. Ewings, Clote Fisher, G. Bauman.

Paul Fey, D. S. Bauchman, M. J. Mills, Wm. H. Lessig, Jeremiah Foster, Evan Kline, Edw. L. Hartz, Jas. Mansel, Wm. Whittemore, Wm. Huckle, H. Johnston, A. Boyer, Augustus Shollenberger, Devilla Shollenberger, Henry P. Stitcher, Levi Leib, Henry R. Silliman, Lin. Bartholomew, Wayne Bartholomew, John O. Beck, Levi C. Bland, Geo. Downing, Wm. Foster.

Saml. M. Mortimer, Jefferson Kittering, Ambrose Loeser, John Miller, Geo. McCord, Marcus Mor-

gan, Lewis Martin, M. Spohn, Wm. Simpson, Heber Smith, John H. Ruch, Nathan Ramsey, I. E. Severn, R. C. Russell, John A. Lessig, Riollay F. Lee, W. W. Jones, Val Stitcher, Wm. B. Severn, John Barber and L. C. P. Bartholomew.

First organization steps were taken at a meeting which was held in the Town Hall, on Oct. 5, 1846. Benj. M. Miller was elected pres.; Washington Jackson, treas., and Wm. Barndollar, secy. A short time later a committee was sent to Phila. where they purchased the old Hope engine from the fire company whose headquarters were on Sixth below Fitzwater St.

On the night of Dec. 2, 1846, in the Town Hall, a ball was held to procure funds to pay for the fire engine. Inclement weather and military excitement, pervading the community, because of the war between the United States and Mexico, prevented the large attendance expected. The receipts only served to pay for a small part of the company's investment in its initial fire apparatus.

It was a red-letter occasion when, on Jan. 20, 1847, the engine was brought to Mt. Carbon, which then marked the northern terminal of the P. & R. Railway. The company manned the ropes of the engine and, headed by a band, paraded it through Pottsville, finally housing the machine on Third St., between Market and Norwegian Sts., the site of the company's first engine house, now used for the City Hall.

The first notable turnout of the Good Intent Co., with their apparatus, was in the parade with the National Light Infantry, in honor of Gen. Taylor and Gen. Scott, and also Colonel Wynkoop.

July 4, 1847, there was a parade of the fire companies. The Good Intent was conspicuous in the pageant. The members were dressed in full regalia and the engine was drawn by six elegantly-caparisoned steeds, each mounted by a boy in Turkish costume. The company members were accompanied by "the brass band."

On July 4, 1848 the company again paraded. The secretary's record says:

> **"On this day the Good Intent Engine Co., with their engine, handsomely decorated with wreaths and flowers, associated with the Hydraulian, which is now in charge of Juniors, proceeded through the streets in firemen's dress. Dr. Leib presented a silver trumpet on behalf of Messrs. Long and Jackson, of Philadelphia. It was received by Jas. H. Campbell, Esq., in a neat and pertinent address in behalf of the company. The trumpet is a splendid instrument very creditable to the taste and skill of the enterprising donors."**

Thos. F. Beatty and Jacob Feltnagle were named by the company to serve with members of the other fire companies, on Sept. 5, 1848, to adopt rules to regulate the entire Pottsville Fire Department.

Jacob Feltnagle, Isaac Barkly, F. W. Rowbottom, Michael Mull and Wm. Christian were appointed a committee to arrange for an anniversary ball held on Oct. 5th.

On July 4th, 1849, the Good Intent fire laddies participated in a firemen's parade at Reading. After leaving the station, on the return home, the Company gave a street parade. The engine was drawn by four horses, each being ridden by a member uniformed as an Arab. The company members marched preceding the apparatus.

Elections for officers were held twice a year and fines were imposed for all absences from meetings.

Henry Clay Cornerstone

Monday, July 26, 1852, the Company participated in the ceremonies when the cornerstone of the Henry Clay monument was laid.

During October, 1857, the Company's old Hope engine, purchased in 1846, was rebuilt at the Agrews' plant, in Philadelphia, at a cost of $1,000.

On Jan. 5, 1859, Geo. Hartman, J. A. Lessig and E. L. Severn were named a committee to ascertain the expense that would be involved in procuring a charter.

On March 30, 1859, the Citizens' Engine Co., of Harrisburg, and the Junior Engine Co., of Reading, were entertained by the Pottsville Fire Department. The Good Intent Co. met the visiting companies at the depot and escorted them to their quarters where they partook of a collation. Subsequently they were conducted to the American Hose Co.'s house.

There was a parade the line of which was: N. Fox, chief marshal, Rough and Ready Engine Co., Pottsville; Humane Hose Co., Pottsville; Young America Engine Co., Pottsville; State Capital Band, Harrisburg; Citizens' Engine Co., Harrisburg; Pottsville Cornet Band; Junior Engine Co., Reading; Good Intent Engine Co., Pottsville.

In the evening the Good Intent Engine Co., gave a successful ball in the Town Hall, in honor of the visiting firemen.

On Oct. 8, 1859, the Independence Fire Co., of Phila., 46 men, accompanied by the Liberty Cornet Band, 17 men, visited Pottsville. Upon their arrival they were met by the Hydraulian and Good Intent Cos. After a parade they were entertained at the Pottsville House. In the evening they were honor guests at a ball in the Town Hall.

The next day the Good Intent Co. and the visiting aggregation, tested the power of their respective engines, at the old Indian Pole, corner of Centre and Mahantongo Sts. The contest was an equal one with, possibly, a shade better shown by the local apparatus.

Application For Charter

Application was made of Court for a charter for the Good Intent Co., as the "Good Intent Fire Company No. 1, of Pottsville." The petition was signed by: Wm. H. Lessig, I. E. Severn, Wm. B. Severn, C. M. Kantner, H. K. Downing, S. Beard, S. M. Ruch, C. C. Hay, E. L. Severn, Charles Kleinert, Charles Yuengling, Chas. Christian, Wm. A. Maize, Geo. W. Foltz, E. G. W. Woerz, A. L. Boehmer, Wm. H. Gore, J. A. Gilmour, John A. Lessig, R. C. Russell, G. H. Hartman, Lamar S. Hay, C. S. Crosland, M. V. B. Hutchinson, Wm. Wren, B. F. May, Edward Christian, Geo. W. Russell, Hugh Nugent, F. F. Wade, John Christian, David G. Yuengling, Jr., Geo. W. Nunemacher, Thos. Davis, M. J. Groatman, and S. J. Dampman.

Exceptions to the incorporation of an association of men, under the name of the Good Intent Fire Co. "No. 1," of Pottsville, were filed by the Hydraulian Fire Co., through their attorney, Geo. H. Clay, because "No. 1" might give the former priority in public demonstrations and create the impression they were the oldest association firemen in Pottsville. The Hydraulians claimed to be the oldest association of firemen and set forth they were always recognized as such. John Power, president of the Hydraulian Fire Co., swore to the correctness of the claim of that company.

In February, 1860, court overruled the exceptions and granted the charter. Prothonotary Daniel H. Shoener affixed the seal of the Court to the document and Major Levi Huber, Recorder, made the charter a matter of record.

After adoption of resolutions, offered by William B. Severn, the members, who enlisted as Defenders of the Government, in response to the call of the President of the United States, and marched to defend the National Capital against the Rebels, were guaranteed their respective offices would be held good and that they would be exonerated from the payment of dues, etc.

Good Intent First Defenders

First Defenders, at the outbreak of the Civil War, who enlisted from the members of the Good Intent Co. were as follows: I. E. Severn, president of the company; E. L. Severn, Lamar S. Hay, C. J. Crosland, George W. Foltz, George Hartman, B. F. Hay, Samuel J. Dampman, Samuel R. Russel, Wm. A. Maize, Jas. Russel, Jos. A. Gilmour, Treas., H. K. Downing, C. Christian, J. Christian, T. J. Davies, D. Christian, Wm. Wren, S. M. Ruch. Wm. J. McQuade, L. J. Martin, Chas. Russell and Thos. Corby.

On Sept. 11, 1861, a resolution was passed to the effect that, owing to the absence of a large majority of the active members of the company, in the service of their Country, the depressed state of finances and the general stagnation of business, every member should be accredited with six months' dues, on the books of the company, from Sept. 1st, and that contributing members be called upon, in fire emergency, each to be furnished with a key.

On Nov. 20, 1861, a committee, consisting of I. E. Severn, John Lessig, Samuel R. Russel, Wm. H. Lessig, Wm. B. Severn and Geo. Foltz, appointed to procure a light-rifled-cannon for the company, reported the piece of ordnance purchased. The cannon was taken into war service by the Ninety-Sixth Regiment, P. V. I.

Messrs. Gore, Hutchinson and Mortimer were appointed a committee to sell the old engine. On July 12, 1866, W. H. Gore, Samuel Russel, C. W. Schnerr, Chas. Kantner and Lin. Bartholomew were named a committee to make disposal of the old piece of apparatus. Then George Hopkins, Augustus Smith, M. V. B. Hutchinson, A. B. Cochran and W. H. Gore were appointed a committee to purchase a third class Amoskeag steam fire engine, on July 26, 1866, Agent C. A. Luce being given the order.

On Aug. 1, 1866, the Rainbow Steam Fire Co., of Reading, were guests of the Good Intent Co., at Pottsville. The latter, on Sept. 13, adopted resolutions of appreciation for the hospitality they received from the Good Intent Co., and the Pottsville Fire Department and citizens, generally, and for the pleasure afforded them by their picnic entertainment; also thanks for the splendid collation, "interspersed with barley water," given the visitors by the Schuylkill Hydraulian Fire Company.

It was on Dec. 12, 1866, that the Amoskeag engine, third size, No. 199, was received, satisfactorily tested and formally accepted by the company.

On June 4, 1867, at the corner of Centre and Norwegian Sts., a contest was entered into, between the Good Intent and Humane steamers, as to the power of each to throw a horizontal stream, for a stake of $100 a side. The judges were: Asa Smith, of Pottsville, for the Good Intent; Captain Lawrence, of Minersville, for the Humane; with H. A. Nichols, of Pottsville, as referee.

The Good Intent allowed the Humane five feet. The Good Intent was adjudged the victor by seven feet. The distance thrown by each engine, through an inch- and-one-eighth nozzle, was: Good Intent. 232½ feet, Humane, 220½ feet.

For years the company occupied the lot, on the south side of Goforth Alley, on Fifth St. There were indications of surface subsidence over some old mine workings. It was decided to move to the north side of Goforth Alley. The company agreed to raze their house, saving all possible materials, cleaning the bricks, digging the new foundations, etc., and rebuild at as little expense, as possible, to the Borough. Council accepted plans submitted by a committee comprising: Chas. Kantner, Chas. Schnerr, S. Reilly, S. Ruch, A. B. Cochran, Wm. Gore and Samuel Russel. Under their direction the new building was completed.

On March 12, 1870, an order was placed with D. G. Matthews for a new hose carriage. It was put in service on July 18th.

As a beneficial feature, on May 23, 1870, $100 was set aside to start a fund. The first sick benefits were drawn on Sept. 26th. On Aug. 1, 1870, the company purchased a picture frame, at a cost of $100 with a capacity for displaying sixty photographs of the company.

Following the Franco-Prussian War, on May 29, 1871, the Good Intent Co. participated in the great German Peace Jubilee parade which traversed the principal streets of the Borough. Captain Martin Eichorn's battery fired a cannon salute on the morning of the parade.

Chas. Ewing, a member of the Good Intent Fire Co., was killed on Market, below Fifth St., on Sunday, April 14, 1872, while responding to a fire, on Sanderson St. He was thrown to the ground by the swerve of the engine and one of the rear wheels ran over him and crushed his skull. Ewing was a veteran of the Civil War, a corporal of Co. K, 67th Regiment of Pennsylvania Volunteers. He served, after the war, on the borough police force and, at the time of his death, was constable of the South Ward.

Rev. Sembower, pastor of the Baptist Church, conducted his funeral service. The funeral comprised: Jones' Cornet Band, Gowen Guards, Pottsville Light Infantry, American Hose Co. No. 2, Phoenix Hose and Hook and Ladder Co. No. 2, Humane Steam Fire Engine Co. No. 1, Good Intent Fire Engine Co. No. 1 and members of the 67th Regiment, P. V. I. The flags on the engine houses were displayed at half-mast and the fire alarm bell was tolled during the passage of the cortege from the house to the cemetery.

First Fire Trustees

On July 28, 1873, E. C. Baird, C. W. Bushar, and John F. Muth were elected as the first Fire Trustees During September, of the same year, the engine, amid a terrific thunderstorm, was taken to the Glendower Colliery to fight a fire. The library of the company was started on Jan. 19, 1874.

S. R. Russel and E. P. Lewis were appointed a committee to go to Williamsport, on Oct. 20, 1874, and purchase a pair of horses belonging to the Independent Fire Co. up to the time there was the change made from a volunteer to a paid department. Martin Eichorn was elected as the company's first driver on Nov. 17th of the same year.

The Good Intent Co. participated in the ceremonial of the unveiling of the monument to the late E. C. Baird, in the Chas. Baber Cemetery, on May 29, 1875. The company kept "open house", entertain-

ed and furnished meals to six commands of the National Guard, of the county, on the occasion of their annual inspection at Pottsville. On Jan. 31, 1876, soon after the Academy of Music was opened, a marionette performance was given under the auspices of the company.

Samuel Russel, a First Defender, of the Civil War, was presented with a gold medal, as a token of the company's esteem, on March 7, 1876. On April 17, 1876, the company conducted the "Goodies' Carnival," in Union Hall, the outstanding function of the company's early days, featuring their annual ball, costumes for which were procured in Phila. This was preceded by a masquerade street parade.

On Sept. 6, 1876, the company participated in the parade of the Volunteer Fire Department, at Phila. There was housed, during November, 1877, a new carriage procured from Buckley & Merritt, at a cost of $600. C. W. Bushar was sent to Reading, as a delegate, to attend the first convention of volunteer firemen, during December 1880.

Borough Council appropriated $2,000, during July, 1881, to purchase the Leib lot, corner of Second St. and Goforth Alley, for the site of their new engine house. Its cornerstone was laid on Saturday evening, June 17, 1882. The West End Band furnished the music for the occasion. The stone was set by W. Taliesin Jones and Geo. W. Taylor members of the company. D. C Henning, Esq., was the orator.

The company occupied their new home on Nov. 29, 1882, following an elaborate parade.

On Jan. 9, 1883, the Buckley & Merritt carriage was sold to W. W. Wunder, of Reading. During May, 1883, the company bought a spider carriage built by W. W. Wunder. On May 28, 1883, the company contracted, through a committee, comprising Edw. Cake, C. W. Bushar, John S. Helms and Geo. A. Becker, with the Manchester Locomotive Works for a third class steam fire engine and, during July, of the same year, for a hose truck furnished by the same corporation. The engine was housed during that month.

On Saturday, July 28, 1883, the company, headed by the Third Brigade Band, with the old hose carriage, two steamers and plenty of "ammunition wagons," paraded from their quarters to Humane Island, at Tumbling Run, where they enjoyed a fine day out. The new truck was housed during November 1883. Response was given by the company with their engine and a two-wheeled hose truck, at the Shenandoah fire of Nov. 12, 1883. In March of 1884 double and single sets of swinging harness were received.

The "Goodies" participated in the parade, incident to the celebration of the centennial of the city of Harrisburg, on Sept. 17, 1885. During September, 1885, the Company bought a Steinway grand piano at a cost of $1,000.

During 1886 they sold their old Amoskeag engine to the Mountaineer Hose Co., of Minersville.

On First Excursion Train

Accompanied by the Third Brigade Band, on June 21, 1887, they took a trip to Atlantic City. They were carried on the first train that left the P. & R. station, at Norwegian and Railroad Sts., after the passenger service was transferred from Union St. While passing thru Phila. the Company was escorted by a delegation of the Fairmount Fire Association. On the return trip, the Band, conducted by Prof. Jas. I. Alexander, serenaded the Phila. Mayor at his office.

By means of a picnic, at the Cressona Park, held by the various companies of the Pottsville Fire Department, in which the Good Intent Co. participated, it was possible to donate several hundred dollars toward the fund raised to finance the erection of the Schuylkill County soldiers' monument, in Garfield Sq.

On Sept. 21, 1888, a reception and banquet was tendered members of the Philadelphia Volunteer Active Association. The visiting organization were en route, homeward, from a tournament at Shamokin. An old time firemen's reception and banquet were conducted in Centennial Hall.

Among the Pottsville guests and honorary firemen present were: W. Ramsay Potts, J. A. M. Passmore, B. Bryson McCool, Baird Halberstadt, Daniel L. Krebs, George M. Roads, C. Shumway, W. J. Whitehouse, H. H. Hoopes, Ed. Lewis, George M. Bretz, C. F. Seltzer, P. D. Helms, S. M. Mortimer, R. H. Bergeman, Jas. Aikman, D. C. Henning, and Jas. Greenwood.

During Oct., 1880, Anthony Morin and a committee of the Volunteer Firemen's Active Association, of Philadelphia, presented the Good Intent Co. with a large silver horn.

On March 31, 1892, the funeral of Wm. Watson, a member of the Good Intent Co., was held from the engine house, burial being made in the Odd Fellows' Cemetery. During that month the company installed a combination pool and billiard table. On Sept. 22 and 23, the Company entertained the Fairmount Hose Co., of Norristown, upon their arrival here returning from the State Firemen's Convention.

Featuring the 50th or golden anniversary of the Good Intent Fire Co., on Wednesday, Sept. 23, 1896, the "fire laddies," made a trip to Washington, D. C., accompanied by the Third Brigade Band. They also visited Alexandria, Virginia, and Mt. Vernon, the trip occupying three days.

Participating in this celebration were: Samuel Mortimer, Thomas Hicks, Charles Kantner, August Boehmer, Peter Jennings and D. C. Henning, honorary members.

Frederick Gross, Frederick Kraus, Charles Weismiller, John McDonald, A. Temple, A. L. Glass, Wm. Stevenson, Fred Lomneth, John Fisher, John Blankenhorn, George Schartel, Wm. Hughes, G. W. Foltz, John Owens, C. P. Seiders, H. Schilling, Wm. Kalbach, W. R. Pyle, John Schmeltzer, Samuel Williams, Thos. H. Lowthert, Harry Kienzle, Chas. F. Miller, John F. Bushar, Chas. E. Emhardt, John Johnson, James Sterner, H. J. Boyer, Jacob Scheafer, Geo. B. Clouser, Adam Rausch, George Fisher, Lewis Blankenhorn.

Samuel Smith, G. W. Roads, Frederick D. Bushar, Wm. Speacht, John Shaw, Harry Reiger, Samuel Gore, Wm. H. Bonsall, G. W. Taylor, Edward Cake, W. W. Faust, Edw. E. Miller, Harry Howard, J. K. Phillips, R. C. Howell, Harry Skelley, Jas. Cooper, Harry Dewald, Peter Veith, Wm. Kleinert, John Foltz, Peter Hartman, F. P. Meyer, J. W. Hill, William Soell, Jr., Irvin Madara, Oscar St. Clair, Thos. Williams, W. H. Parker and James Schrader and Thos. Smith, of the Third Brigade Band, all active members.

Upon their return home, the "Goodies" were given an elaborate reception by the other local fire companies and the Good Will, of Port Carbon, Fourth Regiment Drum Corps and the Minersville Drum Corps, following a pretentious parade.

Sixty-five members of the Company were given a trolley ride, guests of the Schuylkill Electric

Railway Co., over the route, Union St. to Minersville, to Yorkville, to St. Clair, to Tumbling Run and return to Union St.

On Labor Day, Sept. 6, 1897, the Company conducted a picnic at Ploppert's Park, Yorkville, there being associated with it a parade of the Pottsville Fire Department. They also were in attendance at the dedication of the West End Hose Co.'s new home on W. Market St., on the same date.

By resolutions honor was extended those who participated in the Spanish-American War, in 1898, and the members, who enlisted, were exonerated from payment of dues and their benefits were carried along just the same as if they were at home to pay for the privileges.

The Good Intent Fire Co.'s members who participated in the Spanish-American War were: John Owens, captain of Co. H, Eighth Infantry, P. V. I.; F. D. Bushar, second corporal, Co. H; Edw. Miller, private, Co. H; Wm. Mertz, quartermaster sergeant, Co. F, Fourth Infantry, P. V. I.; Geo. J. Fisher, private, Co. H; Baird Halberstadt, quartermaster, Fourth Infantry.

As a testimonial to the patriotism of the men who enlisted from the Company, a large bunting flag was raised over the engine house with appropriate ceremonies.

Members In 1899

The honorary list of members, in 1899, included: A. H. Boehmer, A. B. Cochran, John Christian, Samuel Dampman, D. C. Henning, Thos. Hicks, Lamar Hay, Baird Halberstadt, Peter Jennings, Chas. Kantner, Wm. H. Lessig, Samuel M. Mortimer, Samuel Ruch, Bernard Reilly, Robert Reid, C. S. Shumway, Morgan Silliman and Chas. Whitman.

The active personnel: John F. Bushar, Wm. H. Bonsall, Wm. P. Bray, John Blankenhorn, Jacob Blankenhorn, Lewis Blankenhorn, Fred D. Bushar, Frank Bearstler, Hiester J. Boyer, Frederick Bushar, 2nd., Wm. T. Bardsley, E. Billman, Edw. Cake, Francis L. Cooch, Richard Cruikshanks, Edward Clouser, Geo. B. Clouser, Jas. Cooper, Jos. W. Derr, Harry Dewald, Chas. E. Emhardt, Martin Eichorn, Geo. W. Foltz.

John T. Foltz, Wm. W. Faust, John Fisher, Geo. J. Fisher, John Faulls, Wm. H. Faulls, Geo. Fox, Samuel Gore, Lewis Goetz, Ernst Gross, Frederick Gross, A. L. Glass, Gilmore Gross, Howard Greenwood, Chas. Herbrick, Harry Howard, Wm. Hughes, Robert Helms, Walter J. Hill, Peter Hartman, R. C. Howell, Robert Hamilton, John Johnson, W. T. Jones, William Kleinert, Wm. Kalbach, Wm. Kraus.

Frederick Kraus, Harry Keinzle, Chas. Keinzle, John Kohler, Wm. L. Kramer, O. R. Lord, Frank W. Leib, James Leib, Frederick Lomneth, Thos. H. Lowthert, Jos. Lambruskini, Harry Lomneth, Frederick Meiswinkle, Edward E. Miller, Chas. F. Miller, Frank P. Meyer, Irvin Madara, John McDonald, Wm. P. Mertz, Chas. Meadows, Clem Nichter, John F. Owens, Harry H. Orf, J. A. M. Passmore, Wm. R. Pyle, Frank C. Palmer.

Jos. Parton, John K. Phillips, Geo. W. Roads, Geo. M. Roads, Esq., W. W. Reed, Adam Rausch, David Richards, Henry Reiger, Harry Ruch, Alex. Reed, John Shaw, Samuel Smith, John F. Schilling, H. A. Schilling, John Schmeltzer, Frank Schmeltzer, Thos. Smith, Wm. Fryzell, Geo. Schartel, Frank B. Sheetz, Wm. S. Sheetz, Geo. Smith, Chas. Sterner, Jas. Sterner, Wm. Speacht, Jacob Scheaffer, Oscar St. Clair, Gottleib Schimpf, Jr., Chas. P. Seiders, Levi Scheaffer, James A. Schreader, Wm. F. Scheerer, Wm. Soell, Jr., Chas. Schmeltzer, James

Schartel, Harry L. Skelly, C. F Stoffregen, Geo. W. Taylor, Reese Thomas, Alexander M. Temple, Peter Veith, Thos. Williams, Jos Woll, Chas. Williams, Chas. Weismiller, Edw. Womelsdorf, Samuel Williams and Thos. F. Williams.

The roster of officers of the Good Intent Fire Co., in 1899, was: Chas. E. Emhardt, Pres.; Samuel Gore, Vice Pres.; John J. Johnson, Recording Secy.; John F. Bushar, Financial Secy.; Howard E. Leib, Collector; Frederick Kraus, Chas. F. Miller and Chas. P. Seiders, Company Trustees; Geo. W. Taylor, Foreman, Chas. Herbrick, Asst. Foreman; Edward Cake, Chief Engineer; C. E. Emhardt, Frank W. Leib, Chas. F. Miller, Jas. Schreader and Wm. R Pyle, Asst. Engineers.

Gottlieb Schimpf, Wm. Soell, Jr., F. D. Bushar, 2nd., Chas. Meadows, Wm. Mertz, John Faulls, Harry Ruch, Peter Hartman and Edw. Billman, Directors; John J. Johnston, Frank W. Leib and C. E. Emhardt, Members of the Fire Trustees and Firemen's Relief Association; Frank C. Palmer, F. W. Leib and Wm. P. Bray, Auditors; John J. Johnston, Librarian; Chas. F. Miller Asst. Librarian; Mrs. John Liddel Janitor.

When Department Organized

The records of the Good Intent Fire Co. show that the Pottsville Fire Department was originally organized on Sept. 6, 1877, and was reorganized on March 4, 1884. The roster of fire chiefs and assistant engineers, with the date of their election, follows: In 1873, D. A. Smith was appointed chief and was privileged to name, as his assistants, E. C. Baird and B. B. McCool, First Assistants, and Jos. Dolan and Jesse Drumheller, Second Assistants. The elective officers, starting with 1878, were: Charles Beck, Chief; 1879, Martin Davis, Chief; 1880, August Knecht, elected by delegates from each company.

The fire chiefs were as follows: 1881, 1882, 1883 and 1884, B. B. McCool; 1885, Frederick Meiswinkel; 1886, 1887 and 1888, R. W. Shoener; 1889, Hugh Stevenson; 1890, R. W. Shoener; 1891, 1892 and 1893, John F. Bushar; 1894, Geo. Powers; 1895, P. H. Boltz; 1896, Archie Brown, 1897, John F. Bushar; 1898, Jas. F. Whalen; 1899, Wm. W. Martin.

Some Notable Fires

Among their long period of fire service the company responded to some notable fires. In 1842, in Jos. Shelly's boat-building establishment at Mt. Carbon, all the buildings and a new canal boat, on the stocks, were destroyed.

Sept. 10th, 1848, fire that originated in a large quantity of hay and straw, property of Chas. Moll, corner of Callowhill and Railroad Sts. Damage to the amount of nearly $50,000 was done as many adjoining premises were either wholly or partly destroyed. The principal sufferers were: Glenn & Stine, Daniel Aurand, Abraham Miesse, Patrick Curry, Patrick Fogarty, Solomon Shoener, John Kalbach, Jos. Weaver, Oliver J. Roads, Charles Moll, Chas. Kopitzsch, S. Huntzinger, F. Fernsler, Geo. W. Mason & Co. Solomon Foster, Foster & Daly, Thos. Foster & Co., T. C. and W. Pollock, John Clayton, Fred C. Epting, Robert Adams, C. & W. Fox, Wm. H. Hill, John Hoffman, Jacob Hoeffer, Jas. G. Cochran, W. C. Leib. J. K. Feltnagle and Hassinger & Bertram.

On July 19, 1850, a fire in the rear of Geise's Hotel, destroyed the following properties: Daniel Aurand's cabinet warehouse; Exchange Hotel

stable; Hammer's warehouse and stable; office of B. W. Cumming. Esq.; Mrs. Thompson, S. M. Mills. W. M. Stilson, Beyerley's smithshop, Peter Kerns, John B. Smith, Colonel Lessig, Israel Seitzinger, the Rev. J. B. Neill, who lost horse, carriage and harness; Bertram's printing office.

On May 8th, 1853, service was given at the Port Carbon Road House of Mrs. Reed. She was burned to a crisp. The property was completely destroyed.

Fire destroyed these buildings, following a blaze that had its origin in the club stable of Dr. Halberstadt, on Railroad St., on Oct. 10, 1854: Jas. Beatty, Michael Murphy, Work & Trough's carpenter shop, Pat Lafferty's blacksmith shop, John Bannan's house and stable, Smith & Downing, gas fitters; Miners' Journal offices and the homes of Luke Lee, James Noble and Fred Ent, the entire loss being $50,000.

On April 26, 1855, fire occurred in the brewery of George Lauer, situated just beyond the "Orchard," on the margin of the Schuylkill River. Owing to difficulty in obtaining water, the building was consumed.

On April 27th, of the same year. the large warehouse, at Mt. Carbon, occupied by John S. Miller and B. T. Taylor, was destroyed entailing a loss of $10,000, the structure being filled with a stock of oil and flour

A Sunday night fire, Dec. 16th, also in 1855, resulted in the destruction of the engine house of the Sch. Valley Railroad Co., damaging several engines, the total loss being $12,000.

During a severe snow storm, on Jan. 19, 1857, three stone tenement houses, opposite the old gas house, on Centre St., about a square above the residence of G. S. Repplier, Esq., occupied by Thos. Mullen, Jos. Kitchen, John Marrow and the Widow Brennan, were destroyed.

Eight families were burned out by a fire, on March 5th, that destroyed the tenement houses, on W. Minersville St., owned by Moses Perrot.

On April 4, 1858, the flour and feed store and steam mill of Wm. Hetherington, on Union St., opposite the old P. & R. depot, the mill having been built in 1830, were destroyed by fire, the loss being $12,000.

George Bright's hardware store was gutted out by a fire on June 3, 1862, at the Centre St. stand, caused by Wm. Wenreich, an employe, accidentally igniting a barrel of benzine. The latter was badly burned when the volatile fluid exploded blowing out portions of the side and rear walls of the building Lewis Rank and a boy, Wm. Thomas, were also seriously burned. The loss incurred was $15,000.

On April 14, 1872, by fire, at the corner of Minersville and Sanderson Sts., nine dwelling houses were destroyed, 15 families were rendered homeless, and hundreds of houses were in imminent danger because there was no water. Chas. Ewing, a fireman, was killed by being run over by the Good Intent engine and John Levy was badly hurt by being hit on the head by falling timbers

Fire, on June 20, 1873, on Third St., destroyed a square of houses more than a score of families being rendered homeless, embryo blazes being started in other parts of the town by myriads of sparks carried by the wind.

Mahanoy City, Minersville and St. Clair fire companies responded to the call for assistance. The fire started in Chas. Marzlin's turner shop. The loss was $100,000.

On Sunday, March 19, 1876, the old Town Hall, the erection of

which started in 1839, was destroyed by fire. Among the losses were the effects in the armory of the Gowen Guards and Light Infantry; the property of all the I. O. O. F. Lodges of the town. These were tenants on the third floor.

On April 23, 1879, the old Mt Carbon rolling mill was entirely destroyed by fire.

Thursday, Oct. 15, 1885, fire destroyed two large stables, on N. Centre St., property of Wm. Seltzer, seven horses, 23 hogs, two cows, 40 tons of hay and other property, the loss being $12,000.

Chas. E. Emhardt was elected a member of the Good Intent Fire Co., on Nov. 21, 1882; Samuel Gore, Nov 11, 1884; Samuel Mortimer, in 1849; John Johnston, Dec. 12, 1882, being chosen as a member of the Fire Trustees on Sept. 28, 1886, and has been a continuous representative in that body for nearly 48 years; John F. Bushar, July 21, 1873; and Edw. Cake, Feb. 3, 1873.

Jan. 1890, it was reported that Council had decided to install a new fire alarm system and the company's committee, which fostered the project, was discharged. A roster of officers, headed by F. L. Cooch, as Pres.; Thomas Lowthert, Vice Pres.; John J. Johnson and J. F. Bushar, Secretaries; S. M. Mortimer, Treas., and Samuel Gore, foreman, were elected for the ensuing year.

In March, Dr. T. W. Swalm was elected to membership, as was also William Bonsall. The cannon, on April 9th, fired a salute in commemoration of the 25th anniversary of the surrender of General R. C. Lee Wm. P. Bray and Fred Kraus were elected members. The company held a ball, on April 9th, which proved a signal success. During April, a sprinkling wagon was bought at a cost of $260. Wm Sheetz and Ed. Newell were elected members during August.

Sept. 21st, the company passed resolutions on the death of J. E. Fredericks, an honorary member, who was killed in the Shoemakersville wreck. The company attended the funeral in a body.

At a special meeting, on Oct. 25th, suitable action was taken on the death of Geo. A. Becker, a member. The company attended the obsequies in a body.

April 1st, 1891, the Company was notified, by the School Board, to vacate the lot, on Fifth St., where their wagon shed stood, by the first of July, to give room for building improvements. Geo. M. Bretz gave a fine stereopticon entertainment in the Company's parlor on April 29th. The Company traded in their black horse to J. M. Keller, of Reading, for a new horse and $150 to boot.

The company, headed by the Port Carbon Drum Corps of eight pieces, participated in the dedication of the Soldiers' Monument on Oct. 1st. The Mountaineer Hose Co. of Minersville, were their special guests on that date.

At the meeting of Nov. 10th, action was taken that the engine house and charter be draped in mourning for 30 days because of the death of Daniel L. Krebs, a contributing member. The Company, at their initial meeting in December, decided to attend the first annual ball of the Yorkville Hose Co., on Jan. 12, 1892. During the latter part of December the Company attended the funeral of D. E. Quin, who had been a member of the West End Hose Co.

Under the auspices of the Good Intent Fire Co., the "Midnight Alarm" Theatrical appeared at the Academy of Music, on Jan. 26, 1892. Frank L. Cooch was elected president at the meeting of Jan. 12th.

During that year Wm. Watson and Wm. B. Fernsler members of the Company, died and the company attended the funerals.

Due to an accident, in responding to a fire, on April 13th, it was necessary to purchase a new axle and a wheel for the engine. During June the Fairmount Hose Co., of Norristown, was given entertainment.

At the meeting of June 21st, the president of the Company stated that the Pottsville Water Co.'s reservoir, above St. Clair, was in danger of bursting and the Borough Council of this town requested the people of the menaced town to come to Pottsville for shelter, for the night, the fire house being thrown open to shelter them. President J F. Bushar, C. F. Miller and John Johnston were named a committee to care for all who might come. Samuel Gore acted as secretary of the meeting.

W. H. Parker assumed the secretaryship at the meeting of June 28, 1892. The company held an enjoyable picnic, at Pinedale Park on Aug. 15th. The Fame Hose Co., of Wilmington, Del., were guests of the local company on Sept. 15th. The Harrison & Reid political club was given the privilege of the cellar for a meeting room. The latter organization was also allowed to erect a booth in the cellar for the instruction of voters.

At the meeting of Nov. 8th, a check for $100 was received from the P. W. Sheafer Estate in appreciation of fire company services, during the fire at the old Journal building in which it had its offices, on S. Centre St. On the first meeting of January, 1893, the salary of the drivers was raised to $50 per month, on a sliding scale. Frank W. Leib was elected President; Samuel Gore, Vice President and W. H. Parker, Recording Secretary, for the ensuing year.

"Big Four" Ask Increase

During the meeting of March 14th, the secretary of the School Board notified the Company that they must vacate the premises of the district, on Fifth St., as a new school building was to be erected at that point. At the meeting of April 18th, on motion of John Johnston, a committee was appointed to draft a communication to Council asking for an increase in appropriation for the four companies of the Fire Department using horses. An election for Fire Chief and two assistants was held at the Merchants' Hotel on April 29th.

G. W. Sturtevant and Harry Womelsdorf were elected members in January. The Company contracted to sweep and sprinkle the streets at one dollar per hour.

During the meeting of July 11th, John Johnston, on behalf of the members, presented the company with a flag. Thos. H. Lowthert was elected collector, librarian and secretary for the Company. Action was taken that, except in the case of fire, the horses be driven at a gait no faster than a walk. The Company started working under a new code of signals sounded on the fire alarm bell.

Late in September, when the Borough Council refused to grant the fire companies a $500 annual appropriation, offering them instead $375, committees, representing the "Big Four," Humane, Good Intent, Phoenix and American Hose Companies, held a joint meeting and decided to remove the harness from the several engine houses and not allow their horses to draw apparatus to fires unless the reasonable sum asked for were granted. The action went so far as to recommend that the apparatus be run to fires drawn by man-power.

Oscar J. Hummel, Jos. Lambruskini, Harry Knecht and Max Doerflinger were received as members. The president fined the secretary 25 cents because he did not send his keys to the engine house when he found he would be unable to attend a meeting of the Company. Frank Schmeltzer was elected a member in November.

At the meeting of Nov. 28th, a resolution was framed to be given to each company of the "Big Four" for their independent action, that, if the Borough Council attempted to cut off any of the four companies demand would be made that the order be immediately countermanded with the alternative of all four companies going out of service. The Good Intent adopted the resolution The company realized $639.73 from their fair during the late fall.

April 10th, 1894 Jos. Freiler was elected a member. D. P. Koenig was chosen a director to succeed W H. Parker, resigned. As the outcome of a controversy as to the use of the fire plugs, the Company decided that the trustees and drivers should designate to the Borough Council the specific hydrants they would use. Arthur R. Womer was elected a member during September.

At the meeting of Oct. 30th, use of the cellar was given an organization, within the Company, to be known as the "Saturday Night Club." During November interest money was received by the Company on a Mountain City Building bond which they held.

Officers were elected for the year 1895, at the meeting, held on Jan 8th. The roster was headed by: F W. Leib, Pres.; Henry Reiger, Vice Pres.; Thos. H. Lowthert, Recording Secy. and Collector; J. F. Bushar, Financial Secy.; S. M. Mortimer, Treas.; Wm. Bonsall, Foreman; D P. Koenig, Asst. Foreman. During February the company traded in their bay team for one of six-year-olds, weight 2,765 pounds, secured from a Hamburg breeder, for which they paid $270 in cash.

Form Relief Association

On March 10th, the company was represented at a meeting of local fire representatives, held at the quarters of the Humane Hose Co., by a committee comprising John J. Johnston, Fred Kraus and Samuel Gore, when a Firemen's Relief Association was formed by the Pottsville Fire Department. Samuel Gore, during the latter part of March was put up as the Company's candidate for assistant fire chief.

Henry Reiger assumed duties as recording secretary at first meeting in April. Ernst Prosser was elected a driver during the fall. The Company had an elaborate supper on New Year's 'eve. At the Christmas 'Eve meeting, F. W. Leib was selected as Fire Trustee. Robert Hamilton was made a member of the company.

January 1896, D. P. Koenig was made secretary. It was decided that the equipment of the company should consist of red shirts, buff gloves, white neckties, New Market overcoats and regulation hats. William Soell was elected a member of the company. D. P. Koenig resigned as secretary and Henry Reiger resumed the position. Feb 25th, W. H. Parker was elected secretary and collector.

On March 17th, proper action was taken on the death of Gottlieb Schimpf, Sr. On the occasion of the half century observance of the existence of the company, it was observed by a trip to Washington, D. C. They left, on Sept. 23, 1896, on a special train made up of four B. & O. vestibule cars. The Third Brigade Band, of 31 members, went along.

John J. Johnston served as secretary of the company during 1900 Wm. E. Bassett and David A. Thomas were elected members in that year. The company held an enjoyable picnic at Railway Park on Independence Day. They were entertained at the home of H. J. Royer, with a kid lunch, on the occasion of his birthday anniversary.

The First Defenders' Association held their anniversary reunion and business meeting in the parlor of the company, April 18th, and the fire organization participated in the parade held in their honor.

In memory of Samuel Williams, a member, the company's quarters were draped in black, because of his tragic death, on Aug. 25th. He was killed, near Reading, in a wreck, while performing his duties as a P. & R. fireman.

W. P. Bray was chosen foreman of the company. The Laurel Hose Co., of York, was given royal entertainment by the Good Intent Co

Officers elected for 1901, at the meeting of January 8th were: Samuel Gore, Pres.; William P. Bray, Vice Pres.; Henry Reiger and J. F. Bushar, Secretaries; Gottlieb Schimpf, Jr., Foreman; and Wm. Soell, Jr., Assistant Foreman. Henry Reiger resumed duties as secretary at the meeting of Jan. 15th. At the first meeting, in March, Paul S Dengler was elected to membership. During the second November meeting the following were selected as fire police: Jacob Blankenhorn, P. Hartman, John Fisher, Adam Rausch, Wm. Soell, Jr., Geo. W. Taylor, Irvin Madara, and Gottlieb Schimpf.

Wm. P. Bray started his secretarial duties at the meeting of Jan. 14, 1902. The company received the Borough appropriation of $500. Geo. B. Patterson presented a map of the United States and the famous Horse Book to the company. A check for $10 was given in response to the plea of the local Mine Workers' Union for aid The Rescue Fire Company of York, was entertained. Captain D. C. Henning made the address of welcome. John J. Johnston was elected to succeed himself as a member of the Fire Trustees.

Jacob Blankenhorn was appointed head of ten fire police appointed to represent the company for the ensuing term. Wm. Frizzle was chosen foreman with John Schnerring as his assistant. The name of Chas. Whitman was placed on the honorary roll. At the meeting of March 10, 1903, Atty. R. H. Koch appeared before the Council to ask for an increase of appropriation. Secretary Wm. P. Bray was elected second assistant chief engineer of the Pottsville Fire Department.

At the meeting of June 9th, 1903, acknowledgment was made of an increase in their appropriation from the Borough Council, from $500 to $750 per year. Howard E. Leib resigned as collector. Chas. P. Seiders, Edw. Cake, F. W. Leib, John J. Johnston and John Bushar were appointed a committee to make a change in apparatus and also to dispose of the little hose carriage. F. W. Leib and Samuel Gore were elected as Fire Trustees.

The company received a communication from the Hazleton Firemen's Relief Association asking support in starting a four-county association. As the result of the election, held on Jan. 12, 1904, Jas. Schraeder was elected vice president and Thos. Williams, assistant foreman. Frank D. Yuenglng was elected a member of the company at the meeting of April 12th. By a fire, in the engine house, on April 20th, the company's apparatus was badly damaged. The Borough Council made an appropriation to cover repairs and restoration, amounting

to $2,657.30. David A. Thomas was appointed a fire policeman.

Wm. Soell was chosen foreman and Peter Hartman, his assistant, at the meeting of Jan. 3, 1905. Wm. P. Bray was nominated at the meeting of March for Fire Chief. During May, Peter Hartman was elected foreman, with Frank Blankenhorn as assistant foreman. James Mudey made a donation of $15 in appreciation of services given at a fire which broke out, in his home, during the fall. The drivers' salary was increased from $35 to $40 per month.

On account of the death of Jos. Woll, a member, the engine house was draped in mourning for 30 days. F. L. Cooch was elected vice president at the first meeting of 1906. The company received an invitation to participate in the dedication of the soldiers' monument. at Pt. Carbon on July 4th, as the guests of the Good Will Hose Co.

Joined in Old Home Week Plans

The "Goodies" decided to cooperate with the town's general committee in arrangements for the observance of Old Home Week, John J. Johnston being the company's representative. The parlor of the engine house was tendered for committee meetings, a check for $25 being drawn in favor of the finance committee associated with the celebration. A new team of horses was purchased for $450 during February. For Firemen's Day, the company spent $117.34 for refreshments.

During Old Home Week, the company entertained the Mountaineer Fire Co., of Minersville; Columbia Fire Co., of Shenandoah; Citizens' Fire Co., of Mahanoy City; and the Good Intent Fire Co., of New Phila. on "Firemen's Day." The engine house was appropriately decorated under the direction of a committee comprising Frank Blankenhorn, Wm. Bonsall, Harry Reiger, John Schnerring and Samuel Gore.

Upon invitation from the Rev. W. H. Lindemuth, the company attended divine services in the Methodist Church, of which he was pastor on Sept. 2nd. The company acted as special policemen during the parade, featuring Old Home Week. In the roster of officers for 1907. Edw. Cake was elected engineer; Frank Blankenhorn, foreman and Geo. W. Blankenhorn as assistant foreman. A communication was received from the Civic Society relative to making an attempt to have the Pennsylvania State Firemen's Association hold its annual convention in Pottsville during October.

The Chief Engineer was instructed to ascertain the cost of having the engine gearing changed to a "three-way" hitch. In response to a request from the Civic Society, the company assisted in policing the streets on Hallowe'en, having previously participated in the firemen's parade on Labor Day the occasion of the American Hose Co.'s picnic.

In October, it was decided to purchase a new horse and dispose of the old gray. An invitation was accepted from the Yorkville Hose Co to attend the dedication of their hose house, on Thanksgiving Day. Herman Hartstein was elected to head the Board of Directors, at the second meeting, during January 1908. On March 24, a new sprinkler wagon was purchased at a cost of $351. The company again attended services at the Methodist Church, on Sunday evening, June 28th, when the Rev. W. H. Lindemuth preached them a special sermon.

The company gave efficient service at the Hummel fire on N. Centre St. during October. In 1909 among the list of officers elected. Claude Shelly was chosen vice president and George Blankenhorn foreman. The company received its annual appropriation, of $1,000, from the Borough Council, payable at the February meeting. At the second meeting, in 1910, Claude Shelly was elected president and David A Thomas, Vice President.

It was decided to purchase, at the meeting of May 17th, a triple combination auto fire engine, chemical engine and hose wagon. At the following meeting, a committee signed up for the procuring of the motor apparatus. Purchase of this up-to-date apparatus was done by practically a unanimous vote. A contract was entered into with the Robinson Fire Apparatus Co., of St. Louis, Missouri, at a cost of $8,500.

On Dec. 6th, a committee reported having delivered the old engine to the Diligent Fire Co., of Mauch Chunk, having sold it for $2,000. Assistant Engineer F. L. Cooch and Fireman W. R. Pyle were sent along with the apparatus to give instructions to the purchasers.

During 1911, on April 25th the committee on new apparatus reported that the new motor truck had been received, on March 7th, and given a thorough test. It proved satisfactory. The committee comprised: Edw. Cake, Chairman; John F. Bushar, F. L. Cooch, John J Johnston and Wm. P. Bray, Secretary.

It was decided that not more than seven men would be allowed to ride on the apparatus, responding to fire calls.

Aug. 29, 1911, the resignation of Robert Jacoby, Chief Engineer was accepted, and James Bushar was elected to fill the vacancy, with Geo. Hochgertel, Asst. Engineer.

At the meeting Sept. 5th, Walter H. Sterner was elected Collector. The trustees were notified to instruct the driver, Lester Weigand, that he would have to sleep at the engine house.

At the December meeting, the fire police for the ensuing term were appointed as follows: Frank Blankenhorn, Geo. Blankenhorn, Adam Rausch, Gottleib Schimpf, F. Bushar, 2nd, Geo. Little, Herman Hartstein, Elmer Haines, Wm. Bassett and Winfield Haines.

Dec. 26th, 1911, the borough appropriation of $833.24 was reported received.

1912 Officers

At the meeting of Jan. 9, 1912, the officers were elected as follows: Pres., Henry Reiger; Vice Pres., F. J. Kraus; Rec. Secy., Wm. P. Bray; Fin. Secy., John F. Bushar; Foremen, Geo. Blankenhorn and Gottleib Schimpf; Chief Engineer, Jas Bushar; Asst. Engineers, Lester Weigand, Harry Kienzle, John Bennett, Oliver Weismiller and Geo. Hochgertel.

Hartman and Madenford notified the company that they would not do any more horseshoeing and the work was given to Jess Dewald on April 9, 1912. At the June meeting, a communication was received from the Six-County Firemen's Association, asking the Good Intent to join. Martin Eichorn, a member of the company, died in August. At the meeting of Oct. 15th, a communication was read from the Mt. Carbon Fire Co. No. 1, inviting the company to its opening.

During 1912, it was decided to dispose of the horses and the entire outfit. In November, the report was given at the meeting that the horses and outfit had been sold to Jacob Blankenhorn for $565.

A change was made in the Constitution and By-Laws governing the driver of the motor apparatus. Among other things, it provided that the sum of $60 per month should be paid for his services and the Chief Engineer was to have entire control of the engine at all times.

Edw. Klein, Roy Sterling, John Hartstein and Thos. B. Klinger were elected as members during the year.

Feb. 25, 1913, a letter of thanks was received from Jos. Harrison of the Outlet Clothing Co., enclosing a check for the Fire Co., in appreciation for services rendered during the fire at the Outlet.

The Orwigsburg Centennial Association asked the Goodies to parade on June 13th. July 29th, Lester Weigand resigned as driver of the motor apparatus, and Robert Jacoby as Chief Engineer on Aug. 25 James Bushar was elected Chief Engineer in Jacoby's place. Harold Baldwin was appointed as driver of the motor apparatus. Sept. 23, a letter was received from the Victor Theatre, Pottsville, asking the Fire Co. to enter a contest. It was decided not to do so. Sept. 30th, the company accepted the invitation to parade at the dedication of the new armory. The Boys' Band of Minersville was engaged to head the Good Intent in the parade. Nov. 18, the Trustees reported having given the American Hose Co. permission to store their apparatus in the Engine House until after the American Hose Fair was over. During this year, Cyrus M. Palmer, Harry Kienzle, Robert H. Mills, Edgar Brown were accepted as active members and Carl Weigand and Geo. W. Hopkins as contributing members.

During the Meade fire, Jan. 1914, in Jalappa, part of the company's apparatus was scorched. F. J. Kraus was chosen vice president, for the ensuing year, and George Smith, foreman, with Wm. Bassett as his assistant. George W. Hopkins, of Philadelphia, donated $5 to the beneficial fund. The company decided to participate in the parade at the dedication of the new armory.

A donation of $5 was received from Harry Diamond in appreciation of the company's services at a fire which threatened his home, corner of 12th and Laurel Sts. At the meeting of Feb. 24th, the first, after the dedication of the new armory, a check for $40 was drawn in favor of the Boys' Band, of Minersville, which headed the organization in the parade, with an allowance of $5 for carfare.

The company members received new coats. A check for $25 was received from P. J. Ferguson, in appreciation of the company's services at the fire which damaged his business building on Centre St. The Fire Trustees were requested to look after an increase of appropriation for the company. George Smith was elected assistant engineer.

Mason Wheeler resigned from membership in the company. There was acknowledged receipt of $5 from Jos. I. Medlar and Mrs. S. Medlar, as a mark of appreciation of services given at the fire which damaged their home on Greenwood Hill. The company responded to an alarm so that their action could be recorded in moving pictures. From Isaac Brenner a check of $10 was received testimonial to the service that was given at his premises which were damaged by fire. The trustees rented the wagon shed to John J. McKnight.

At the meeting of June 30th, Reese Thomas was placed on the

beneficial roll because of injuries received in giving fire service. The company accepted an invitation to parade in the demonstration of Frackville's Old Home Week. F. L Cooch was given permission to place his private automobile, in the engine house, at night, during the winter months. It was decided to parade, fully equipped, with apparatus, on Labor Day, Sept. 7th.

From. F. B. Bannan a check of $10 was received in appreciation of the company's services rendered at the fire that damaged his property Congressman Robert E. Lee presented the company with a government map of the U. S. A donation of $25 was received from D. G. Yuengling & Son for service given at the fire that damaged the brewery plant. John J. Johnston was elected to succeed himself as a member of the Fire Trustees. It was decided that, when a member drove apparatus in responding to a fire, he be privileged to drive it back to the engine house if he so desired.

Two new iron posts and plates, replacing the brick pillar supports, were installed in the cellar. The company received an invitation to participate in the Mummers' Parade, at Mahanoy City, on New Year's eve. Horace Ellis, George Davis, Benj. Rowland, Geo. D. Beyerle, Harry Little and George W. Hopkins were elected as members in 1914.

At the second meeting of January, 1915, Henry Reiger was elected President; Howard Blankenhorn, Assistant Foreman; F. L. Cooch, Master Mechanic; and James Bushar, Chief Engineer.

F. W. Leib, David A. Thomas and George Smith were appointed a committee to arrange for the next convention of the Six-County Firemen's Association, hoping to have it held in Pottsville. It was represented there would be entailed a cost of from $2,000 to $5,000. The Association decided not to hold their next convention at the Sch. County seat. The apparatus was out of service for several days because of being disabled as the result of the severe test required by the officials of the Underwriters' Association. The request of the Pottsville Historical Society for one of the primitive helmets with the leather frontispiece was granted.

The company amended by-laws, at the May meeting, deciding to meet at 7:30 p. m. every Tuesday evening. A donation of $10 was received from Wm. Prifer because of service given at the fire which damaged his building. It was decided to donate $10 toward giving perpetual care to the soldiers' graves on the plot in the Odd Fellows' cemetery. John F. Bushar and Frank Blankenhorn were appointed to act with committees of other organizations, of the community, to raise a sufficient sum total to guarantee this worthy purpose.

New members during 1915 included Thos. Hammer, Carl Weigand, Harry Sneddon, Frank Gore, Wm. Reinhard, Chas. E. Derr, John J. Heinle, August L. Schuettler, Wm. T. Kline, Fred Lomneth, David Davis, Chas. Madara, Leo Schappell, Howard Sterner, Jos. Painter, Frank Reber, and Herbert Wentzel. Walter Kline, Fred Lomneth and Samuel Skeen were chosen fire policemen. Chairs and tables, for social purposes, were placed in the cellar during the closing days of the year.

At the meeting of Nov. 28th, 1916, a resolution passed third reading to the effect that thereafter the sal-

aries of Chief Engineer, Assistant Foreman and Directors were to be dispensed with. During the year, Geo. W. Rhoads and Peter Jennings, members of the company, passed away. John Corby, Edw. Klein and Leo Johns became members.

Join Six County Firemen

Chas. Williams served as driver for the company. April 17th, 1917, the company accepted the invitation of the Patriotic League to send a representative to a meeting to be held April 18th at the rooms of the Merchants Association to make arrangements for a patriotic demonstration to be held April 28th. May 8th, the company decided to join the Six-County Firemen's Association and John F. Bushar was elected as the delegate. May 10th, the President of the Company, Henry Reiger, died. May 29th, the committee reported that Wendell Meadows had given satisfactory service as a driver and recommended that he be elected. All members in war service were exonerated from paying dues.

At the meeting on July 24th, the company decided to purchase a light car and equip it with a hose body, chemical tanks. Vice President F. J. Kraus presided at the meeting after the death of Mr. Reiger. Harry Strause and Geo. Hostetter were admitted as members.

On Jan. 8, 1918, a new president took the chair, when David Thomas was elected, as well as the following officers: Vice Pres., Wm. Frizzle; Rec. Secy., Wm. P. Bray; Secy., John F. Bushar; Treas., F. W. Leib; Foreman, Wm. Frizzell; Asst. Foreman, Frank Blankenhorn; Master Mechanic, F. L. Cooch; Chief Engineer, Clarence Sneddon; Asst. Engineers, Wm. Reinhardt, Geo. Hochgertel, Leo Johns, Lester Weigand and Heber Kline; Directors, Howard Blankenhorn, Walter Klein, B. F. Sterling, John Hartstein, Wm. Bassett, Jas. Bushar, Peter Hartman, Geo. Davis and Geo. Blackenhorn; Co. Trustee, F J. Kraus, and Librarian, Wm. P. Bray.

At the March meeting, the Chief Engineer reported that the Assistant Engineers were willing to take turns sleeping at the Engine House for the sum of $1 per night.

A letter was received from the West End Fire Co., requesting the company to support Wm. T. Cullen for President of the Six County Fireman's Association. The company decided to send its delegate, Jas. Bushar, uninstructed to the convention, on June 18th.

The Patriotic League requested the company to send a platoon of eight men and two color bearers in charge of the foreman to take part in the parade to be held in honor of 63 boys who were going to Camp Lee, Tuesday, June 25th. David Thomas resigned as president of the company. At the Jan. 14th, meeting, 1919, Wm. Frizzell was elected President and Geo. Hochgertel, Vice Pres. Philip Storch, Harold Baldwin, Russell Smith, C. H. Geiger, John Schreffler and John O. David were added to the membership list.

Fireman's Convention In Pottsville

At the meeting of July 15th, a committee consisting of Wm. P. Bray, John F. Bushar and Wm. Frizzel was appointed to meet at the council chamber to take up the matter of holding the Six County Fireman's Convention in Pottsville in 1920. The result of the meeting was that the majority of the companies favored holding the convention here and the Good Intent decided to vote favorably also. The sum of $5 was contributed to start a fund for the purpose. F. W. Leib, Frank Blankenhorn, Wm. Bassett and B. F. Sterling were added as members of the committee. The

company participated in the demonstration for returning soldiers on Labor Day. During the year, John P. Taylor, Harry Porter, Wm. P. Lohr, Frank Bausum, John Hartman, Wm. Golden and Thos. Smith were elected as members. Wm. Hughes passed away.

On Jan. 13, 1920, Thos. Smith was elected President of the company and Wm. Frizzell, Vice-President. Oct. 5th, the company subscribed the sum of $5 as a contribution toward the new Milliken Hospital, in answer to a letter from Dr. Francis Doyle, the President. Contributions were also made to the Salvation Army, Third Brigade Band, Red Cross and Anti-Tuberculosis Society.

Ronald D. Jones, Harry Skelly, Thos. Blankenhorn, Lamar Pritchard, Louis Mader, Harry Showers, Percy Knoblauch, Wm. F. Weber and Raymond Blankenhorn were among the new members added during 1920, and F. C. Palmer died on Dec. 27th.

Dec. 6th, 1921, $25 was contributed toward a Mummer's Parade in Yorkville on New Year's Day. $10 was also given to the Rescue Workers for the Christmas dinner fund, in response to a request from Maj. H. D. Hainley. The $50 prize for having the biggest number in line in the Mummer's Parade was used for a supper. Edw. C. Kopp, Owen Sharkey, Chas. Whitmeyer, Edw. Messersmith and Wm. Sterling were added to the company rolls.

At the Apr. 18th meeting, 1922, Geo. Blankenhorn was nominated for delegate to the Six County Firemen's Convention at Mahanoy City, and Frank Blankenhorn, alternate. At the meeting of Sept. 26th, the matter of obtaining Wm. Lessig's sword from the Denver Museum, was placed in the hands of the financial secy., Jas. Bushar. Howard Blankenhorn, Wm. Ebling, Morris R. Holt, Albert Schablein became members during the year.

Salary for Master Mechanic

Mar. 27th, 1923, it was decided on motion to pay the Master Mechanic a yearly salary of $50, the same to start from Jan. 1st, 1922. The company accepted the invitation of the Riverside Fire Co. of Reading to be their guests during Reading's 175th anniversary celebration Oct. 3rd, 1923. Apr. 17th, 1923, F. W. Leib was appointed as a member to represent the company on the Senate of the Chamber of Commerce. Wm. P. Bray was the alternate. The Auburn Band was chosen as the band to accompany the company to Reading. June 26th, the resignation of Elmer Haines as assistant engineer of the company was accepted. Nov. 13th, the trustees reported appointing Ezra Carey fireman, starting Nov. 15th. At the meeting of Dec. 26th, a check for $15 was received from J. H. Zerbey and one for $20 from C. A. Althouse. Harry Howard died during the year.

Jan. 8th, the election of officers for 1924 was held, and resulted in F. W. Leib being elected pres. Pres. Leib appointed a committee at this meeting to ascertain what it would cost for a new chassis for the chemical and hose truck. Wm. Frizzell, Jas. Bushar and Wm. P. Bray composed the committee.

The committee reported at the meeting of Jan. 15th, that a used White chassis could be secured from John Yaissle for $3,050. They were ordered to secure same, and also add a 150 gallon chemical tank to the equipment. Master Mechanic Jas. Schraeder and Chief Engineer Geo. Hochgertel were added to the committee. Wendell Meadows was

elected assistant engineer. Feb. 26th the company decided to withdraw as a member of the Chamber of Commerce. Mar. 25th, the committee reported having sold the old chassis for $300. May 27th, the company accepted an invitation to parade with the McAdoo Fire Co. on July 3rd.

The company acknowledged an invitation to attend the 60th anniversary demonstration of the Tremont Fire Co. from Aug. 17th to the 24th. A bazaar was held in the engine house during Thanksgiving week.

There was participation by the company in the National Defense Day parade. During the year, Cyrus Palmer resigned from the company. Morris Holt, Geo. C. Erdman, Preston Frickert, Ted Kantner, Harry Ruch, Frank Reiter, Jos. Whitman, Wm. Warner, Harry and Edw. Arbogast were elected new members during the year. Russel Smith and Harry Ruch were elected assistant engineers.

Wm. Frizzell was elected foreman starting the year 1925. A First Aid kit was placed on the White truck.

The company attended church on Sunday evening, June 14th, "Flag Day." During the year, Geo. Eisenhuth, Gomer Carter and Geo. Erb were elected new members.

At the election, held on the second meeting of Jan., 1926, Geo. Hochgertel was chosen chief engineer, with Wm. Reinhard, Howard Blankenhorn, Geo. Smith, Ronald Jones, Wendell Meadows, Russel Smith, Wm. Golden, Harry Ruch and Fred Eisenacher as assistant engineers. A donation of $10 was made to the endowment fund of the local American Legion Post. Wm. E. Bassett was appointed head of the fire police. During the year as new members, Chas. H. Ham, Herbert Hughes, Chas. Golden and Thos. Llewellyn were elected.

In the roster of officers elected for 1927, Jas. Schrader was chosen as master mechanic. Irvin E. Kulp was elected assistant engineer. The United Spanish War Veterans invited the company to participate in their parade on Labor Day.

Mar. 20th 1928, the resignation of Benj. Rowland as assistant foreman was accepted. Harry Kienzle, Jr., was elected in his place. Apr. 17th, the company contributed $10 to the Officer Skidmore Relief Fund. Oct. 28th, Wm. P. Bray was elected to fill the unexpired term of Frank L. Cooch, deceased, as fire trustee. On Nov. 13th, the release of the Lucy A. Cake Estate willing the company $1,000, minus $100 inheritance tax, was read.

W. E. Bassett was appointed to head the roster of 10 fire police for the ensuing year. Harry Ammon and Frank Rehman were added to the membership rolls during the past year.

Starting the year, 1929, Wm. Frizzell was elected vice pres.; Harry Kienzle, Jr., foreman and Earl Dietz, assistant foreman. Blankenhorn was the company's choice for second assistant fire chief. At the meeting of June 11th, a committee of nine was appointed to get data as to all types of modern apparatus. Geo. Anderson's name was placed on the engineer board. Responding to a still alarm, during July, the White truck was damaged by being run into by another machine. Fred Eisenacher resigned as night chauffeur, and was succeeded by Heber Klein.

Purchase New Engine

At the meeting held on Aug. 13th, it was decided to purchase a 1,000-gallon pumper with Booster equip-

ment, from the Ahrens-Fox Fire Engine Co., at a cost of $13,500, an allowance of $600 being made for the Robinson truck. The new apparatus was insured for $10,000. Jas. Schrader, Geo. A. Smith and Geo. Hochgertel were named as a committee to meet with the fire trustees and express their views as to a 16-inch water main on Centre St.

The secretary reported at the last meeting of Dec. having received the annual appropriation from the city, viz. $1,900. Paul W. Madara resigned from membership during the latter part of the year. Two new members, Albert Kerlavage and Geo. Anderson, were elected.

Geo. A. Smith was chosen chief engineer at the second meeting of Jan., 1930. Chas. Schneider was elected night chauffeur.

B. F. Sterling was reported as disabled. The Citizens Fire Co. of Middleport, invited the local company to participate in their parade on Aug. 28th. On Sept. 18th, the company took part in a firemen's parade associated with the local American Legion's street enterprise. Chas. Schneider was selected as assistant engineer. The new Ahrens-Fox truck was formally placed in service. The White truck was damaged by the Humane Co.'s truck, responding to a fire at Young's Landing. It was sent to Yaissle's for repairs. During the year, Paul Marr and Chas. Schneider were elected members.

At the Jan. election of 1931, Wm. Reinhard, Russel Smith, Geo. Hochgertel, Albert Kerlavage, Fred Eisenacher, Geo. Anderson and Chas. Schneider were named assistant engineers. A check for $25 was received from the Moose for services rendered at the home of the Order. At the second meeting in May it was decided to parade the new Ahrens-Fox truck in the June turn-out of the Six County Firemen's Association at St. Clair. The company donated $50 for music. Russel Smith was elected chief engineer. John J. Johnston was chosen to succeed himself as a member of the fire trustees. The name of John Taylor and Ernest Reiter, during the year, were added as new members.

As directors in 1932, there were elected: Walter Klein, Frank Blankenhorn, Benj. Rowland, Jas. Bushar, John Blankenhorn, Wm. Bassett, Wm. Frizzell, Raymond Blankenhorn and Gottleib Schimpf. John Kane and Harry Ammon were made assistant engineers. The company received an invitation to participate in the Girardville Centennial celebration on Firemen's Day, Sept. 28th. During the year, John Kane was elected a member.

In the roster of officers, elected early in Jan., 1933, F. J. Kraus was chosen as company trustee; Frank W. Leib, fire trustee, and W. P. Bray, secy. and librarian. It was decided during Feb. to install a radio set. The Pennsylvania Fire Chiefs' Association was entertained in the engine house as headquarters during Mar. A communication was received from the Rescue Chemical Company of Danville, requesting financial aid. The company, in response to an invitation from the American Legion, paraded on Memorial Day. The Ladies Auxiliary of the Third Brigade Band held a card party in the engine house on Nov. 28th. Wm. and Frank Soell were appointed fire policemen. During the year, Wm. A. Ginther and Clyde Storch were elected as new members.

In the personnel of officers elected for 1934, Wm. P. Bray was chosen recording secretary and Jas. Bushar, financial secretary, with Walter Klein assistant foreman. Clyde Storch and William Ginter were elected assistant engineers. Harry Katz, Fred Yuengling, John Wise and Jesse Hawley are the newest members added.

The full roster of officers, serving the company for the year 1934 are: Frank W. Leib, pres., Wm. Frizzell, vice pres.; Wm. P. Bray, rec. secy.; Jas. Bushar, fin. secy.; Jas. Bushar, foreman; Walter Klein, asst. foreman; Frank Blankenhorn, Benj. Rowland, John Blankenhorn, Wm. Bassett, Wm. Frizzell, Raymond Blankenhorn, Gottleib Schimpf, Earl Dietz, Harry Kienzle, directors; Jas. Schrader, master mechanic; Russel Smith, chief engineer; Wm. Reinhard, Geo. Hochgertel, Albert Kerlavage, Fred Eisenacher, Geo. Anderson, Chas. Schneider, John Kane, Harry Ammon, asst. engineers; Frank W. Leib, company trustee; Wm. P. Bray, librarian.



O. of I. A. Council Was Organized in 1886

(From "Pottsville Republican"-"Morning Paper," July 20, 1934)

Pottsville Council No. 263 Order of Independent Americans dates its origin back to July 27, 1888. M. J Snook, of Thaddeus Stevens Council No. 252, of Reading, was the organizer. Jas. W. Sallada, who resided at 317 N. Third St., this city, was the original recording secretary. Robert Saylor and William Heine were the representatives of the Council, at the sessions of the State Council of the Junior Order United American Mechanics, which were conducted at Harrisburg, on July 17, 1889.

The parent body, the Jr. O. U. A. M. was rent by misunderstandings. The dissenters, upon their withdrawal, in 1901, severed relations with the state organization, and met as an independent organization until 1904. It was on Jan. 10, 1905, that a charter was granted Pottsville Council No. 263, in the Order of Independent Americans, by the State Council of Pennsylvania. For the past 29 years it has been a staunch supporter of the State Body.

On June 25, 1904, the O. of I. A., a Pennsylvania corporation, came into existence, at Reading. The original officers were: Councilor, Chas. A. Westerman, of Pittsburgh; Vice Councilor, W. H. Whitehead, Jr., of Weissport; Jr. Past Councilor, Frank Innis, of Chester; Council Secretary, Wm. A. Pike, of Phila., and Council Treasurer, Evan G. Badger, of Philadelphia. Of this roster there is only one survivor, Mr. Whitehead.

As its objects, the Order appointed the following: To maintain and promote the interests of Americans and shield them from the depressing effects of foreign competition; to assist Americans in obtaining employment; to encourage Americans in business; to establish a sick and funeral benefit fund; to maintain the public school system of the United States and to prevent sectarian interference therewith, and uphold the reading of the Holy Bible, therein; and to provide a fund for the proper care and support of the orphan children of deceased members.

Its organizers and members assisted to secure the passage of the law which gave free books to the public school children and the law which forbids public school teachers from wearing any dress, garb or insignia that would indicate religious denomination or church.

It aided in having Congress pass restrictive immigration laws to keep undesirables out of the country.

It is non-partisan and stands for the purity of the ballot.

It is non-sectarian and believes that each one should worship God according to the dictates of his or her own conscience.

It places the flag over the school house and the Bible within.

It was a positive factor in obtaining the Educational Code Act which removed the public schools from politics.

In the Legislature of 1912-'13, it drafted, introduced and secured the passage of the law which compels the reading of the Holy Bible in the public schools of Pennsylvania, the Act becoming a law on May 20, 1913. The organization pledges itself to do all in its power to keep this law on the statute books of Pennsylvania.

During the Legislative session of 1920-'21 it drafted and secured the passage of the law which compels the display of the American flag at all entertainments, public gatherings and public meetings in the state of Pennsylvania, this having become a law on April 26, 1921.

The organization has expended nearly one-half a million dollars in assisting the widows of its deceased members to rear their orphan children at home instead of putting them out into institutions thus perpetuating the American home, which they believe, is vital to the future of the Country. This plan is known as the "Fireside System," for taking care of orphan children and was originated by the Order of Independent Americans.

The Order has more than 40,000 members in Pennsylvania.

In 1915, after a stubbornly-contested fight, through the courts of Phila. and the supreme court of Penna., the Order won a signal victory in defeating an attempt to give to the University of Pennsylvania for a paltry sum of money and a few free scholarships, the valuable site of ground upon which the Phila. Commercial Museum, now stands.

Pottsville Council No. 263, with nearly 400 members, has always been an integral unit of this great order and its patriotic and humane endeavor, as well as interest in everything in the community, for the betterment of the people, will always be remembered.

The present officers of the Pottsville Council are: Councilor, Harold Brownmiller; Vice Councilor, Ellsworth Sandherr; Assistant Secretary, Walter Schumacher; Recording Secretary, R. I. Webber; Financial Secretary, Harry J. Schumacher; Warden, Russell Auman; Conductor, Martin Hasenauer, Inside Sentinel, Howard Sinton, Outside Sentinel, Enoch Farlow; Chaplain, Samuel Mitchell; Trustees, George W. Webber, James M. Blacker and Thomas B. Shoener, Representative to the State Council and Funeral Benefit Association, R. I. Webber; Alternate Representative, Thos. B. Shoener.

On the night of the institution of Pottsville Council 49 members were enrolled, but the charter was kept open for six months. At the end of that period the numerical strength of the Council had been increased to 122.

The original charter membership was as follows: Geo. H. Carter, C. H Britton, Frank Hertzog, Robert Saylor, E. J. Skelly, J. A. Lenning, E. J. Becker, H. E. Heine, D. E. Nunemacher, A. Saylor, J. W. Geary, C. W. Downey, W. G. Seltzer, A. C Arbogast, Wm. Kraus, D. T. Koenig, George J. Schimpf, Geo. Falls, W. D. Sheetz, Jas. W. Sallada, Wm. G Bishop, C. Zeigler, W. A. Lindenmuth, Peter Hertzog, Geo. A. Klare. Frank Quinn, Jos. Fry, O. G. Snyder, H. M. Michael, W. Stevenson, R. G. Ward, H. H. Heine, F. A. Crouse, David Hughes, L. Klare, E. Arrowsmith, Harry Saylor, A. L. Fuehn, R. A. Yiengst, Chas. A. Welker, F. W. Heitz, John Gull, Daniel Spencer, John J. Curtis, Harry Binckley, Francis Streicher, Frank Werner, David Staller, and Joseph C. Manhart.

Charter members, added later, were: Chas. T. Quinter, Mahlon P. Keith, Chas. T. Dailey, George W Good, John Kirkley, Charles G. Bomm, Geo. Kirkley, Jas. Redington, John Sanders, Milton Miller, Henry Faust, Chas. G. Forseman M. Michael, Edw. Crofton; Jas. P Jennings, Chas. S. Haeseler, R. H. Jones, Lloyd Martz, Geo. Wiederhold, Walter S. Stevenson, D. F. Speacht, W. H. Parker, I. E. Hollenbach, J. G. Sharler, Charles P. Debert, John W. Eisenbitts, Albert Jones, Geo. Phillips, C. Gottschall,

Thos. Breman, W. W. Martin, John H. Deysher, C. H. Shoener, Wm. F. Whitmeyer, J. Ed. Evans, John Yoder, O. P. Whitman, Eugene Diener, John V. Diener, Heister Boyer, John W. Kantner, George M. Rubright, George W. Graeff, Chas. Sterner Wm. R. Miller, G. W. Sterner, G. W. Christman, Wm. Afflekt, C. V. Mattern, Leonard Strickler, O. T. Sterner.

A. H. Levy, W. H. Schertle, C. J. Steidle, G. W. Glenn, O. R. Lord, A Temple, H. C. Christian, H. R. Knerr, William P. Bray, Amos Forseman, C. Strickler, John W. Morit, Robert Fegley, Robert Storig, Harry Fessler, Geo. Pyle, John Fox, F. D. Heine, W. V. Otto, Wm Staller, Adam Jennings and Geo. W Miller.

During present times, the spelling of some of the above family names is different than those noted above These were furnished direct from the records of the Funeral Benefit Association, the headquarters of which are at Philadelphia. They were provided typewritten and are a facsimile of the names as they appear upon the benefit rolls of the organization.

The actual membership, carried on the rolls of the Order of Independent Americans, today, is 345. The members of the Pottsville Council carry fraternal insurance through the Order amounting to $194,750.

Of the original roster of 122 members, five are still in good standing. They are: C. H. Britton, Frank M. Werner, Chas. T. Quinter, Chas. G. Bomm and William H. Schertle.

One of the outstanding accomplishments of Pottsville Council was that of November 30, 1920, being the purchase of the Whitfield residence, 309 W. Norwegian St. A building committee, consisting of William W. Martin, Reuben I. Webber, F. J. Alber, B. Frank Hoke and W. J. Messersmith directed its remodeling at a cost of $25,000. The first and second floors were converted into tenement apartments. The third floor is devoted to the Council's purposes there being a large meeting or assembly room, in the front part of the building with commodious social quarters in the rear.

The first meeting, in the new home of the Council, was held on April 5, 1921. The indebtedness, a that time, was $21,000, nearly all of which has been paid during the succeeding years. The Council is now planning a mortgage burning during September when it is contemplated to wipe out the entire indebtedness.

Since becoming a part of the Order of Independent Americans, 15 orphan children, of former members of the local Council, have received support from the Orphan Fund and their mothers were thus enabled to keep the little families intact.

When the old Mountain City building was destroyed by the fire that practically wiped out all property, in the square, bounded by Mahantongo, Centre, Norwegian and Second Sts., all the old records of the local Council were destroyed, the organization having their headquarters in that building.

Later the Council met at 16 N. Centre St.; Lee building, Second and Market Sts.; and the Gellert building, 102 N. Centre St. The old rooms, 16 N. Centre St., were then occupied again until the Council moved into their permanent headquarters on W. Norwegian St., where it has grown and prospered.

During the past score of years, the Council paid out $58,081.20 in sick and death benefits to members and their dependents.

Those who represented Pottsville Council in the State Council were: Robert Saylor, Wm. Heine, C. H.

Britton, Harry A. Haak, Wm. J. Martin, Frank W. Morgan, Jas. M. Blacker and Reuben I. Webber.

The latter attained to the highest honor of the order when he was chosen State Councilor in 1929.

Mr. Webber has long been a most substantial supporter and advisor of the local Council and has a popularity, among the members of the patriotic order throughout the state enjoyed by few other of the officers of the Order. His activities gained him recognition in 1928 when he was made State Vice Councilor.

The next year he was elevated to State Councilor. In 1930, he was made Junior Past State Councilor. and during the succeeding year, Senior Past State Councilor.

When the call for young men came after America entered the World War, forty of the members of Pottsville Council responded. One of them, Thos. J. Best, made the supreme sacrifice having been killed in action in France. The Council kept all of these members in good standing throughout the period of their service overseas.

The personnel of the honored forty follows: Thos. Best, Robert Bobbs, Valentine Bomm, Clayton Dietrich, C. L. Ferrebee, Harry Frederick, John Gangaware, A. J. Gillars, Henry J. Hartstein, Geo. Heffner, Chas. Heilner, Geo. Hood John Hood, Thos. Hood, Clarence J. Hoffman, Elvin Hummel, Thos. Kienzle, Fred G. Knell, W. G. Knowles, Herbert Koch, Homer Koch, Harold I. Kremer, Roy Letcher, Albertis Lilley, Edward A. Long, Norman Marberger, Wm. J. Martin, Wendell Meadows, Leroy Meister, Geo. Meister, Harry L. Phillips, Homer Reigel, Paul Schock, Jos. Heilner, Howard P. Sinton, W. H Speacht, Geo. D. Warmkessel, Wm C. Wingert, Clyde J. R. Witman and Geo. Wolf.

Pottsville Council was enrolled in the Funeral Benefit Asociation, during 1888, with 49 members. The first report showed, at the annual session of the Association, on Feb. 22, 1889, a gain of 73 members or a total enrollment of 122.

While Pottsville Council was still identified with the Junior Order United American Mechanics, it met as follows: In 1889 and 1890, in the Mountain City Building, C. H. Britton officiating as secretary during the former year, and A. F. Forseman, Jr., during the latter; in 1891, '92 and '93, in the building, Centre and Norwegian Sts., when Jas. W Sallada, D. B. Schertle and J. N Saylor, officiated as secretaries; from 1894 to 1901, inclusive, at 1 S. Centre St., A. Forseman and H. F. Bushar being the respective secretaries, during the first two years, and Chas. B. Lord during the other six years.

Safe Deposit Bank Created In 1870

(From "Pottsville Republican"-"Morning Paper," July 21, 1934)

Following the close of the War of the Rebellion, in order to meet the rapidly growing need of the Borough of Pottsville and the County of Schuylkill for a strong commercial bank, the Legislature of Pennsylvania, Feb. 18, 1870, by a special act, created a corporation by the Name of the Safe Deposit Bank of Pottsville. The incorporators were. Charles Baber, C. H. Tyson, Alexander S. Moorehead, F. W. Hughes, R. F. Weaver, George DeB. Keim, L. F. Whitney, F. B. Kaercher, Lewis L. Huntzinger and Wm. B. Rudy. The charter of the Bank conferred full powers and rights tc operate as a bank and trust company.

The corporation organized on March 14, 1870 by the election of C. H. Tyson as President and F. B. Kaercher as Secretary and Treasurer.

The first Board of Directors was composed, as follows: Charles Baber, Geo. DeB. Keim, Alexander Moorehead, R. L. Weaver and L. L. Huntzinger.

On May 4, 1870, the bank purchased from J. Curtis Hughes a lot adjoining the Trinity Episcopal Church, and erected thereon its first bank building, at 211 S. Centre St., which was occupied until 1919, when, due to the growth of its business, it was found necessary to provide larger quarters for its business. Having acquired title to a new site at the southwest corner of Centre and Norwegian Sts., on April 24, 1919, official announcement was made that the Bank would erect thereon a modern and complete banking house. The building permit was issued on July 6, 1921, and the work of erection was begun on July 28, 1921. The building was formally opened for inspection by the public on Aug. 2, 1922.

The building is constructed of massive blocks of granite, some blocks weighing from two to four tons. The cutting and fabrication was done at the quarries, and the plans were so accurate and the work so well done, that the last piece to be put in place fitted perfectly.

During its long and prosperous existence, the Bank numbered among its directors many of the prominent citizens of Pottsville, who were active in promoting the growth and prosperity of the community, and in carrying out the slogan of the Bank: "Safety, Security and Service."

The officers and directors elected for the year 1934, are: E. C. Luther, Pres.; Daniel W. Kaercher, Vice Pres.; W. J. Richards, Vice Pres.; S. T. Deibert, Treas. and Trust Officer; J. E. Schlottman, Assistant Treas., and T. R. Daddow, Secy. The Directors are: W. J. Richards, E. C. Luther, D. W. Kaercher, G. T. Burd, T. R. Daddow, C. W. Sheafer, Wm. H. McQuail, and J. F. Seiders.

Early Banks In Pottsville

Some of the early banks of Pottsville had a somewhat difficult time to keep sound financially. The Miners Life Insurance and Trust Co., located at 281 Centre St., which was chartered in 1850 sus-

pended payments Aug. 4th, 1876. More than a million dollars were lost in its failure.

The Pottsville Life Insurance and Trust Co. was incorporated in 1852, with insurance privileges. In 1873. the name was changed to the Mechanics Safe Deposit Bank.

The Government National Bank was chartered as the Government Bank of Pottsville in 1863 under the state banking laws with a capital of $50,000. It was later turned into a national bank but, being an offshoot of the Miners Life Insurance and Trust Co., it could not survive the failure of the parent organization.

The National Bank of Penna. was opened in 1864 as a state bank, in the old Seitz building. The bank was only conducted under this name for two years and became the nucleus of the Penna. National Bank of the present day, this bank being organized Sept. 18th, 1866 with a capital of $100,000.

The Pottsville Bank had a short life. It was located in the Lyceum block, Market St., from March 4th, 1872 until April 1873, when it moved to the Seitz building now the Odd Fellows Building and suspended, paying its depositors in full.

The German Banking Co., opened in March 1872, with a capital of $100,000 and was successful for a number of years. When it went out of business, it paid its depositors in full and left a good-sized dividend for its stockholders.

The Merchants Exchange Bank was chartered in 1873.

The Farmers Bank of Sch. County moved to Pottsville from Sch. Haven in 1851 and closed business in 1870 but without serious loss to its depositors.

The Mountain City Bank was chartered April 8th, 1870, and they began business with a capital of $100,000. They built an addition on the Seitz building (Odd Fellows building site) and occupied it until 1875 when their new $100,000 building was completed on the site of the old Mortimer House, Centre and Norwegian Sts. This bank succumbed to the 1873 panic.

Knights of St. George History

(From "Pottsville Republican"-"Morning Paper," July 21, 1934)

On March 9, 1913, Branch No. 186, Catholic Knights of St. George. was founded. Its aims and purposes are to unite fraternally male Catholics of good moral character and of every honorable profession and occupation. The special objects of the organization are to provide for the widows and orphans of deceased members or of such beneficiaries or estates designated in the certificate or policy of insurance, a certain sum by maintaining Men's Death Benefit Funds, to pay members of the Sick Benefit Fund, a stated amount in case of sickness or accident; to do works of Christian Charity and to help the sick or disabled members materially.

The charter officers, four of whom are deceased, follow: Spiritual Advisor, the Rev. F. W. Longinus, Pres., Dr. Henry A. Dirschedl; Vice Pres., Francis Buehler; Recorder. Jos. J. Post; Marshall, Andrew J. Montag; Director, Henry J. Schlitzer; Trustees, Fred J. Drobel, Wm. F. Schlitzer and Frank Freiler; and Secy.-Treas., Frank J. Hoffman. The deceased officials, in the roster. are: Father Longinus, Francis Bueh ler, Andrew Montag and Fred. Drobel.

The present officers are: Spiritual Advisor, the Rev. F. A. Fasig; Pres.. Jos. J. Leinheiser; Vice Pres., Lawrence F. Elison; Recorder, Albert E. Reith; Secy.-Treas., Carl W. Elison Marshall, Thos. Holohan; Trustees, Wm. F. Smith, Henry P. Buehler and Harry J. Ney. Dr. Dirschedl is medical examiner and district deputy.

Branch No. 186 has a membership of 100. Of the charter membership, the following are still actively functioning: Dr. Henry A. Dirschedl, Chas. E. Fleischut, Theo. J. Gruber, Arthur Glosser, Fred. W. Hoffman. Frank A. Leinheiser, P. B. Malarkey, Jos. A. Nerz, Jacob Post, Jos. J. Post, Frank Rehnert, Gustave A Rees, Albert E. Reith, Valentine Scheibelhut, Max. F. Rees, John B. Sauer, Henry J. Schlitzer, C. D. Schonauer, Frank M. Smith, Edward T. Wachter, Frank J. Weber, Jr., William A. Bubser, John Dreher, Martin Malarkey, Edw. Hauessler, Joseph A. Heintz, William Hoffman and Nicholas Nieder.

One of the outstanding accomplishments of Branch No. 186 was the organization of branches of Schuylkill Haven, New Philadelphia, Tamaqua, Mahanoy City, Shenandoah, Ashland, Minersville, Newtown, Lykens, St. Clair, Mt. Carmel, Shamokin, Brockton, Locust Gap, Centralia, Frackville, Kulpmont, Keiser, Ranshaw, Treverton, and East Mauch Chunk. Institution of these was done by Dr. Dirschedl, first local organizer, who later filled the more responsible berth as state organizer. Functioning in the latter position, he was aided by special representatives, Joseph Pitt and J. Stanford.

The Catholic Knights of St. George, in the United States, had its origin on Jan. 8, 1881, when the organization was chartered by the courts of Allegheny County. The original charter members are now deceased. The first grand officers

were: Andrew Wittman, Pres.; Michael Limpert, Vice Pres.; Henry Liehr, Secty.; and Anton Specht Treas. About six months after the Order was instituted, a Sick Fund was created in charge of separate officers providing for payment of benefits in case of sickness, disability or death. The Knights of St. George prospered. In 1902 it had, throughout the United States, a total of 47 branches with a membership of 5,024, confined to the territory between Pittsburgh and Altoona with, also, a branch at Wheeling, West Va. Today it comprises more than 356 branches which are well spread throughout the states of Pennsylvania, Ohio, West Virginia, New Jersey, Maryland and Michigan, with an approximate membership of 25,000.

Associated with the Sick Benefit Fund, there is a total membership of 13,236. In the financial statement of 1902 there was shown a death fund of $14,000 and a sick benefit treasury of $6,000. The total assets today from all sources aggregate $4,500,000.

During the 52 years of its existence, the Order has lost, through death, 7,000 members and 1,367 associate women. Death claims of $6,000,000 have been paid.

As the outgrowth of the annual convention, held at Harrisburg, in 1919, agitation was begun, which, at the biennial convention that met in Pittsburgh in May 1922, resulted in the Home for the Aged at Wellsburg, West Virginia being established. It is in the midst of 505 acres. The Home is in charge of the Sisters of the Sacred Heart, the Mother House of which is at Reading, Pa. The Home is financed by a monthly contribution from each member of the Order and the revenue obtained from the proceeds of the farm and dairy connected with the farm.

1st Reformed Church Called 1st Pastor 1834

(From "Pottsville Republican"-"Morning Paper," July 23-24, 1934)

The First Reformed Church has been a part of the community of Pottsville for the past one hundred years, for it was 1834 that Rev. David Hassinger accepted the call to become the first regular pastor of the congregation which was then worshipping in a union church with the Lutherans.

However, the church history goes back still farther than that for as early as 1811, it is known that a log school house was erected somewhere beyond Nichols St., on the road leading to Mill Creek, in the locality where the late Col. N. B Hyde's residence was later built. This was known as the Dutch Reformed Church and school house. for in the early days the Reformed Churches of Holland and of Germany had their parochial schools combined with their churches and often the pastor and the school teacher was one person.

The early history of this school has been lost and the first actual facts were recorded in 1834 when Rev. Hassinger became the pastor. Prior to that time and, up until 1838, from a book entitled "The Fathers of the Reformed Church," it is learned that a Rev. F. C. Kroll, who resided in Orwigsburg preached and taught, independently, in and around Pottsville. It is believed that the school house where he taught was the school house located where the Centre St. school building now stands.

A Rev. Furth, another Reformed minister, also preached in this section for records show that on Mar. 10, 1833, he baptized Chas. J. Christian who was born in Pottsville.

In 1837, a frame building was erected on Third St., where Trinity Lutheran Church now stands, the first Reformed Church and the Lutherans joining in the erection of the building. Rev. Hassinger remained with the local church until 1847.

In 1848, Rev. J. A. Rubolt, who is described as a classical scholar and an eloquent preacher, became the pastor and remained for two years.

The Schuylkill Classis, in 1850, sent Rev. J. W. Hoffmeier, then pastor of the Orwigsburg Church, to Pottsville. Some time prior to that, some trouble had arisen with the Lutherans and when the new pastor came, he found the members without a place in which to worship. Then, too, Chas. E. Hoffmeier, an independent preacher of Minersville and a brother of Rev. Hoffmeier, was holding services among the Reformed people of Pottsville and the growth of the church was hampered for a time. Rev. Hoffmeier succeeded in gathering the people together and he held services in Foster's corner, at Third and W. Market Sts., and prepared the way for the coming of a resident pastor.

In 1852, the Classis directed Rev. John Gatenbine to take charge of the work in Pottsville and he was elected pastor on Jan. 15, 1853. The officers who signed the call were Elders Philip Womelsdorf and Jacob Reed and Deacons Christian Kuntzler and Henry Bittle. Services continued to be held in a hall until the differences were settled and they were again allowed to hold services in the Union Church, but the difficulties were not entirely adjusted and finally a bill in equity

was filed against the Lutheran congregation for the purpose of recovering certain rights in the property.

Rev. Gatenbine resigned on Nov. 1, 1858 and Rev. I. E. Graeff, D. D., accepted a call in January and began his pastorate here. During his pastorate, the congregation returned to their worship in the hall on Second St., evidently the building erected by the Universalists on the site of the Good Intent Fire Co.

Efforts toward a separation of the Lutherans and Reformed congregations continued but offers by both congregations to either buy or sell were not satisfactory. The Reformed people bought a lot on West Market St., near Tenth for $10 a foot frontage on Market St. The old Union Church was finally sold by the Sheriff, Sept. 5, 1857 and the Reformed congregation realized $950 as their share of the proceeds from the sale of the property. which brought more than the actual debts incurred. On July 2. 1857, Rev. Graeff resigned as pastor and the congregation which was still worshipping in the little Church on Second St. extended a call to Rev. Samuel Miller, who accepted the call Jan. 17, 1858.

On Nov. 22, 1858, a meeting was held at which it was decided to quarry the stone and prepare to erect a new church on the lot at 10th and Market purchased from Benj. Pott. The building was to be 52 feet deep and 32 feet wide, the basement to be eight feet in the clear and all four walls to be of brick. At the meeting of May 23, 1859, the dimensions were changed to 36x60 feet. The building committee was composed of Abraham Sterner, Jos. DeFrehn and Geo. Fisher. The cornerstone of the church was laid on July 17, 1859 with Rev. John Ermentrout and Rev. A. L. Herman of the Reformed Church assisting the pastor, Rev. Samuel Miller.

Dec. 4th, 1859, a dedication service was held, as the basement story was completed. The congregation continued to worship in the basement until the church edifice was finished. On Jan. 1, 1860, a Sunday School was organized with Elder J. F. Petry being elected Superintendent. The Church was completed on Sept. 23, 1860 and formally dedicated. The cost of the church is estimated to have been about $3,500 of which $700 remained to be paid on the day of dedication. The records show that in Jan. 1867, the congregation was entirely free of debt.

Rev. Miller resigned on May 25, 1863, after serving six years. Nov. 10, 1864, Rev. C. J. Bucher, D. D., was called and was installed as pastor on Dec. 25, 1864, by a committee consisting of Rev. C. H. Leinbach and Rev. J. F. Stein, of Schuylkill Classis.

During the pastorate of Rev. Miller and Bucher, the congregation had been growing rapidly and the services were conducted in both the German and English languages. There was a growing sentiment for more services in English and finally at a meeting of the Lebanon Classis at Mahanoy City, May 20, 1868, it was deemed advisable to effect a division and take steps toward the organization of an English Reformed congregation in Pottsville.

Dec. 23, 1867, the congregation was given letters of incorporation under the name of the "First Reformed Church of Pottsville" by the Common Pleas Court of Schuylkill County. About this time, a new constitution and by-laws, in keeping with the constitution of the Reformed Church in the U. S., were adopted by the congregation.

Feb. 17, 1868, Rev. Bucher resigned and almost immediately, the question of language in the conducting ot the worship became acute. There was only one English service every two weeks in the evening. The young people of the congregation were attending English schools, speaking the English language and associating with the youth of other churches. On May 26, 1868, a hundred members of the congregation signed a petition asking for the privilege of organizing themselves into an English congregation. There was a great loss of young people to the congregation, who would have remained in the mother church had English been introduced.

Rev. Samuel Miller, who had served the church before from 1858 to 1864 was elected and was installed as pastor. A separation was affected and on June 9th, 1868 at eleven o'clock at night, the Trinity Reformed congregation was begun. Services had been conducted by the Rev. Dr. Johnson of the Schuylkill Classis and the newly elected officers of the German congregation were installed and then at 11 p. m., the officers of the new congregation were also installed.

The loss of about a hundred members and the fact that the mother church still clung to the German language, both in worship and instruction, made it difficult for the pastors who followed Rev. Miller, and they all felt that the church was being hampered by clinging to a foreign language.

Rev. Miller served until 1872, and the pastors who followed him were as follows: Rev. Geo. Hoff, 1872 to 1873; Rev. Mr. Kuntz, 1873 to 1876; Rev. C. Baum, D. D., 1876 to 1882; Rev. A. S. Kaiser, 1882 to 1883; Rev. L. D. Steckle, 1883 to 1886; Rev. H. J. Mishler, 1886 to 1893; Rev. W. H. Herbert, 1893 to 1899; Rev. A. M. Peters, 1899 to 1903; Rev. A. F. Dreisbach, 1903 to 1908; Rev. R. J. Freeman, 1908 to 1913; Rev. L. M. Fetterolf from 1914 and now serving as pastor, having but recently celebrated his 20th year there.

The question of the German language continued to be considered and at a congregational meeting on Jan. 6, 1902, the decision was reached to abandon the language entirely in all of the services of the church. This sudden decision again worked a hardship on the church and it lost many of its loyal members by this discontinuance of the German services.

Although it took a few years for the congregation to recover from the loss of some of its most loyal supporters, it continued to grow in numerical strength and carved for itself an important place in the religious life of the community. Within the past few years, they have gradually increased their property holdings until they now have a modern church and Sunday School building which is answering all church requirements.

In 1916, the church auditorium was renovated and refurnished. An organ and choir chamber was added, the chancel was rebuilt and refurnished and a new hardwood floor was laid, as well as new pews and a new lighting system installed.

The Ladies Aid Society, with the help of $700 from the Carnegie Foundation, placed a two-Manual Estey Pipe Organ in the church, the cost being $2,235. The organ was dedicated Nov. 19, 1916, with Rev. C. B. Schneder, pastor of St. John's Reformed Church, Shamokin, preaching the dedication sermon. The Society also purchased a burnished brass pulpit and lectern at a cost of $300, this being dedicated in 1917. During the same year, a handsome marble baptismal font was placed in the chancel by Mrs.

Emma Good in memory of her husband, George W. Good.

In April, 1917, the congregation purchased the property at 903 W. Market St., as a parsonage. After repairs were made, it was occupied by the pastor and his wife on May 29, 1917.

During 1918, the Sunday School room was considerably improved, a piano was purchased and a new lighting system was installed.

On. Oct. 15, 1926, the announcement was made that the First Reformed Church was to be rebuilt and modernized, in order to accommodate its steadily increasing membership and to provide for the many activities in which the church had come to be interested. As the years passed, the pastor had kept his congregation abreast of the times and a special program of work with the younger element was introduced and carried out.

The contract for the new building was awarded to W. J. Messersmith, at a cast of $40,500, and on April 24, 1927, the cornerstone of the new edifice was laid with the Rev. Morgan A. Peters, of Myerstown, and a former pastor of the Pottsville charge, as the preacher of the occasion.

On Feb. 26th, 1928, a week of Dedicatory services was begun as the new church was completed and formally dedicated. At the Sunday services Rev. C. B. Schneder, D. D., pastor of St. John's Church, Shamokin, preached at the morning service and Rev. Paul S. Leinbach, Editor of the Reformed Church Messenger, in the evening.

On Monday evening, there was a musical service under the direction of Miss Effie G. Hoke, the organist and choir leader; Tuesday, Schuylkill Classis night was observed with Rev. A. O. Reiter, pastor of St. John's Church Allentown and a former Pottsville pastor, as the speaker; Wednesday, Former Pastor's Night was held, with Rev. R. J. Freeman of Weissport, as the preacher. Thursday night, Prof. W. F. Curtis, President of Cedar Crest College was the chief speaker and Friday night, H. E. Paisley of Phila., brought a special message to the young folk.

In the new edifice were to be found many gifts from members of the congregation. The altar and chairs were presented by Mrs. Clarence Messersmith, Mrs. Harry Heckler, Mrs. Wilde and Mrs. Chas. Manhart in memory of their father, Elder L. T. Miller. Mrs. Marie Luckenbill was remembered by her daughter, Mrs. Wm. Corby, who presented the brass altar rail.

Memorial windows were presented by Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Corby, by Mrs. Eliz. Faller in memory of her son, Henry Faller, Jr., who died in the Argonne; by the Primary and Beginners' Department; by Florence Staudt in memory of Harold Staudt, by the Catechetical Class of 1927, by the S. S. classes of Sarah Clouser, Mrs. R. J. Reppert and Mrs. John S. Crossman, by her mother in memory of Orna A. Roeder; by the O. E. Roeder Bible Class; by Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Corby; by the Woman's Missionary Society; by Mrs. Mary Enders and family; by Mr. and Mrs. Fred Steidle, and by the Women's Bible Class taught by Mrs. John C. Petrie.

When the church was built, separate rooms were included for the Beginners', Primary, Intermediate and Adult S. S. departments and each department has spacious quarters. The S. S. room is on the first floor and can be turned into a social hall when needed. There is also a very well equipped kitchen easily accessible to the social hall. The church proper is on the second floor and will seat 400. In spite of the fact that it has been difficult to

raise any money on account of industrial conditions, the church debt is already half paid off.

The elders of the church at the present time consist of Geo. B. Lewis, Walter Britton, Geo. L. Griffith, Raymond Kershner, Abraham Frcmm, Geo. J. Schott, Clayton Dietrich and Robert Gottschall.

The deacons are: Wm. Corby, Mrs. Wm. Corby, John Paul, Frank Eiler, Lewis Steidle, Geo. Wood, Franklin P. Miller, Howard T. Schappell and Geo. W. Richards.

The officers of the Church Consistory are as follows: President, Rev. L. M. Fetterolf; Vice Pres., Joh nS. Crossman; Financial Secy., Clayton Dietrich; Treas. Current Expense Fund, Geo. Griffith; Treas. Benevolent Fund, Frank Eiler; Treas. Debt Fund, Abraham Fromm.

The Sunday School Officers are as follows: Gen. Supt. John S. Crossman; Asst. Supt., Raymond Kershner; Secy., Edna Manhart; Asst. Secy., Elvin Sterner; Treas. Frank Eiler; Pianist, Helen Horn; Supt. of Beginners Dept., Helena Mae Edwards; Supt. Primary Dept., Mrs. L. M. Fetterolf; Supt. Cradle Roll, Mrs. Geo. Wood; Supt. Home Dept., Cyrus Sheafer; Supt. Teacher Training, Rev. Fetterolf; Supt. Young People's Division, Florence Tobias; Supt. of Missions, Mrs. Daniel Musket.

The Mission Band officers are: Mrs. Fetterolf, Supt.; Asst. Supt., Dorothy East; Secy., Helen Mae Edwards.

The Friendship Circle is in charge of Bessie Fromm; Florence Tobias is President of the Senior Christian Endeavor Society and Alma Giltner, President of the Junior C. E. Society.

The officers of the Woman's Missionary Society in 1934 are as follows: Pres., Mrs. L. M. Fetterolf, Vice Pres., Miss Florence Staudt; Fin. Secy., Mrs. John Crossman; Recording and Corresponding Secy.. Miss Bessie C. Fromm; Citizenship Secy., Mrs. Geo. Wood; Stewardship and Thank Offering Secy., Mrs. Jennie Reppert; Secy. of Literature, Miss Amelia Sweigert; Life Membership Secy., Mrs. Edw. Jenkins.

The Officers of the Ladies' Aid are as follows: Pres., Mrs. George Steidel, Vice Pres., Mrs. Wm. Corby; Secy., Mrs. Geo. Wood, and Treas., Mrs. Cyrus Sheafer.

15 Lodges In 11th District of Masons

(From "Pottsville Republican"-"Morning Paper," July 25-Aug. 1, 1934)

(Information which made possible this history of the Masonic organization was secured through the cooperation of James E. Morris, of Pottsville, 33rd Degree Mason and District Deputy Grand Master.)

The Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry in the United States is under the control of the Supreme Councils, the Northern Jurisdiction with Grand East in Boston, Mass., with control over fifteen states, namely Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island, New York, Penna., New Jersey, Delaware, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan and Wisconsin and the Supreme Council of the Southern Jurdiction with Grand East in Washington, D. C., controlling the remaining states.

These Supreme Councils are composed of Lodges of Perfection 4th degree to 14th degree, inclusive; Councils. Princes of Jerusalem, 16th to 17th degree; Chapters Rose Croix 18th to 19th degree; Consistories, 20th to 32 degrees inclusive, with the 33rd degree being conferred in the Supreme Councils.

Masons from Schuylkill County receive their degrees and hold their membership in Consistories located in Allentown, Bloomsburg, Coudersport, Harrisburg, Phila., Reading, Scranton and Williamsport.

Masons from Schuylkill County having received the thirty-third and last degree are as follows: Hiester S. Albright, (deceased) Orwigsburg, Harrisburg Consistory; James E. Morris, Pottsville, Phila. Consistory; Wm. S. Pugh, Pottsville, Phila Consistory; Judge Roy P. Hicks, Frackville, Reading Consistory; Prof. Wm. R. Troutman, Frackville, Williamsport Consistory; Dr. Frederick W. Wagner, Mahanoy City, Reading Consistory.

The Grand Lodge of Penna. on Dec. 27th, 1933, was composed of 568 subordinate Lodges with a total membership of 201,600. Judge Otto R. Heiligman, Phila., is the R. W. Grand Master; Harold N. Rust, of Wilkes-Barre, the R. W. Deputy Grand Master; Judge Robert R. Lewis, Coudersport, R. W. Sr. Grand Warden; Wm. H. Brehm, Phila., R. W. Jr. Grand Warden; J. Sommers Smith, Phila., R. W. Grand Treasurer; John A. Perry, Phila., R. W. Grand Secy.; Wm. A. Rhodes, Phila., R. W. Deputy Grand Secy.

J. Claude Keiper, P. G. M., 33rd degree, Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge, of District of Columbia, stationed at Washington, D. C., was born and reared in Shenandoah.

The 536 subordinate lodges comprising the Right Worshipped Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons in Pennsylvania are divided into 66 districts of which 15 Lodges are located in Schuylkill and Carbon Counties and comprise the 11th district presided over by Jas. E. Morris, 33rd Degree Mason, District Deputy Grand Master.

The Lodges in the 11th District which has a membership of 3,500 are as follows: Schuylkill Lodge No. 138, constituted June 7, 1813, Orwigsburg.

Pulaski Lodge, No. 216 constituted July 9, 1831, Pottsville.

Minersville Lodge No. 222, constituted Dec. 7, 1846, Minersville.

Tamaqua Lodge No. 238, constituted July 13, 1849, Tamaqua.

Swatara Lodge No. 267 constituted Jan. 24, 1853, Tremont.

Page Lodge No. 270, constituted March 7, 1853, Sch. Haven.

Anthracite Lodge No. 285, constituted Dec. 15, 1853, St. Clair.

Ashland Lodge No. 294, constituted March 12, 1855, Ashland.

Mahanoy City Lodge No. 357, constituted Aug. 24, 1875, Mahanoy City

Pine Grove Lodge No. 409, constituted Apr. 21, 1868, Pinegrove.

Cressona Lodge No. 426, constituted Nov. 5, 1868, Cressona.

Shenandoah Lodge No. 511, constituted Sept. 25, 1872, Shenandoah.

Panther Valley Lodge No. 677, constituted May 4, 1914, Lansford.

Pottsville Lodge No. 730, constituted June 10, 1924, Pottsville.

Frackville Lodge No. 737, constituted May 25, 1925.

The following have served as District Deputy Grand Masters in charge of the Lodges of the 11th District: Christopher Little, Levi Huber, Matthew M. MacMillan, 33rd degree Mason, of Mahanoy City, Isaac Y. Sollenberger, of Mahanoy City, Wm. S. Pugh, 33rd degree Mason, Pottsville, Albert A. Seibert and James E. Morris, 33rd degree Mason, Pottsville.

Pulaski Lodge

On Sept. 23rd, 1931, Pulaski Lodge No. 216 of Pottsville observed its 100th Anniversary with a banquet in the Masonic Hall. This Lodge was instituted with 16 Warrant members on July 9th, 1831 by District Deputy Grand Master Brother Wm. B. Potts, acting as R. W. Grand Master who installed the officers.

The first officers of the Lodge were Jos. E. Sorber, Worshipful Master; Strange N. Palmer, Senior Warden and Samuel Huntzinger, Junior Warden. The Warrant members were: Isaac Beck, Jacob Buckwalter, Benj. W. Cumming, Chas. Ellet, Conrad Grover, John Gillick, Samuel Huntzinger, Robert McQuaid, Samuel McCullough, Strange N. Palmer, John Patrick, Jos. E. Sorber, Henry N. Scholl, Benj. F. Taylor, Benj. Thurston, and Andrew B. White. The first Lodge initiate was Philip Dreher, on Sept. 3, 1831.

The ceremonies of Constitution of the Lodge were performed in a room in the old stone dwelling house of David Phillips, on Centre St., second door above Market, where the Moyer Clothing store is now located. The sessions were held there for several years and then were taken to the attic of the Exchange (now the Rennas) Hotel, corner Centre and W. Arch Sts., then High Street. After the completion of the Old Town Hall (later the Centennial Hall site and at present the A. & P. store at N. Centre St.) about 1841, a room on the third floor was fitted up for lodge purposes. The growth of the lodge was slow and in 1841, twenty members were reported on the roll. Until 1859, the Lodge continued to meet in the Town Hall with varied success. At various times, the finances were at low ebb and, due to industrial conditions, it required great courage for the little band of men to maintain their standing in Masonry. However, their persistence and spirit were rewarded and, after weathering the storm, the Lodge has since enjoyed a prosperous career. On St. John's Day, Dec. 27, 1859, the Lodge held its first session in its new quarters in the Bright building, then 181 Centre St., and now 109 S. Centre St. An agreement had been made with the owners, by which $1060 was advanced toward the erection of the building and a ten years' lease was secured free of rent in return. The room was fitted up and furnished at a cost of nearly $3,000.

However, before the expiration of the first term of the lease, the Bright building was sold and, after

remaining several years, the Lodge accepted the invitation of the Penna National Bank to secure for themselves a permanent abiding place.

The Bank was about to erect a new bank building at 19 S. Centre St. and an agreement was made with the Lodge to have a third story added to the contemplated structure and fitted out expressly for Lodge purposes. On Oct. 1st, 1873, the Lodge leased the premises for a period of fifty years, at an annual rental of $500 with the right to sublet to the Chapter and Commandery The rooms in the building were handsomely fitted up and furnished at a cost of $6,000. The Lodge took possession on Dec. 1, 1873, and on Oct. 31st of the following year, the rooms were thrown open to inspection of the members and their friends.

The Lodge continued to meet there until Dec. 17th, 1914, when the Penna. Bank building was destroyed by fire and the room and its contents, which were very valuable, were entirely destroyed. The original Warrant of the Lodge and all of its original records were destroyed. For some years after the fire, the meeting place of the Lodge was changed several times, the G. A. R. having tendered its room on the fourth floor of the Morris building and on the third floor of the Moyer and Bausum building, 4 S. Centre St.

From the time of the fire in 1914 a movement had been on foot to procure a home which would be permanent and worthy of the Masonic Fraternity in this community The trustees recommended that a committee be appointed to take the necessary steps. On Jan. 18, 1915, the Worshipful Master appointed a committee of 21, the number being later increased to 25.

On May 16, 1916, the committee secured an option on the property at Third and W. Norwegian Sts., at a price of $16,500. A banquet was held at which the plans were presented for the erection of a building at a cost of $40,000. The Pulaski Realty Co. was organized with a capital stock of $5,000. On July 10, 1916, the Pulaski Realty Co. purchased the property at 3rd and W Norwegian Sts., for $16,500, and on Dec. 19, 1921, the building was sold for $25,000.

At various times, plans were started to erect a building but building costs were so high that it was deemed impractical to go ahead with any plans for erecting a permanent home for Masonry.

On June 3, 1924, the Safe Deposit Bank offered the site at the corner of Second and Norwegian Sts. to the Pulaski Realty Co. for $50,000 with an additional $11,000 for the improvements thereon.

At the stated meeting of the Lodge on June 16, 1924, the trustees were given the authority to vote the stock of the Pulaski Realty Co., held by the Lodge in favor of accepting the offer of the Safe Deposit Bank and under date of Sept. 21 1925, the contract was let for the erection of the building which was to cost $270,000.

On March 8, 1927, the new Lodge Room was opened in a fitting manner. An extra meeting was called and Kermit Von der Heiden received the first degree in Freemasonry. Following the meeting in the Lodge room, the brethren retired to the banquet hall where a splendid program was carried out with Judge Harold B. Wells, of Bordentown, N J., delivering an address. Thus was the heartfelt desire of the members brought to a successful consummation and today, the Masons have a beautiful Lodge home of which they may well feel proud.

Since the time of its constitution on July 9, 1831, Pulaski Lodge No. 216 has been honored by the appointment of the following District Deputy Grand Masters: Christopher Little, who served from Dec. 27 1866 until Dec. 26, 1869; and from Dec. 27, 1871 until his death on June 9, 1891; Wm. L. Whitney, who served from Dec. 27, 1869 until Dec 27, 1871; Levi Huber, who served from Sept. 21, 1891 until Dec. 27, 1895; Wm. S. Pugh, who served from Dec. 27, 1909 until Dec. 27, 1911 and from Dec. 27, 1913 until Dec. 27 1920; Albert A. Seibert, who served from Dec. 27, 1911 until Dec. 27. 1913 and Jas. E. Morris who was appointed Dec. 27, 1920 and is now serving as the District Grand Master.

The Past Masters who served are as follows: Jos. E. Sorber, Benj Thurston, Andrew B. White, Isaac Beck, Chas. Ellet, Benj. W. Cumming, Jesse Foster, Thos. J. Baird. Samuel J. Potts, Jas. S. Carpenter. Lawrence F. Whitney, John K. Souders, C. Fager Jackson, John F Whitney, Henry L. Cake, Heister Clymer, John Hughes, Christopher Little, Henry A. Aechternacht, Wm L. Whitney, M. Edgar Richards, Decatur E. Nice, Wm. D. Hodgson Daniel Washburn, Francis M. Nichols, Michael F. Maize, John M. Miller, Jacob Greenwald, J. Oliver Roads, Lebbeus Bosbyshell, Henry C. Russell, Daniel D. Moreton, John P. Bertram, Jacob F. Emhardt, Levi Huber, Wm. Kendrick, Fred Fernsler, John F. Muth, Riollay F. Lee. Wm. H. Robinson, Jeremiah J. Cake, Jas. G. Lowrey, Robert A. Reid. Geo. W. Eiler, Robert S. Chrisman. Hugh W. Kriner, Wm. D. Pollard. Morgan Reed, Clayton H. Reist. Chas. F. Derr, Jas. R. Henderson Peter K. Filbert, C. Geo. Miller, Christian A. Seidel, John W. Heebner, Frank A. Miller, Harvey Scott Alfred J. Derr, Geo. J. Goldsmith. Wm. E. Bussom, Albert A. Seibert, Wm. F. Weber, Isaac E. Epler, Livingston Seltzer, Horace L. Priest, Chas. E. Downey, Wm. S. Pugh, Wm T. Knight, Jas. E. Morris, Geo. S. Chadwick, Daniel W. Kaercher, Wm. H. Chandler, Wm. F. Flail, J. Rondell Edwards, Gustav A. Muehlhof, C. Rowland Thatcher, Harry M. Klick, Julian F. Ulmer, Harold E. Smith, Harry E. Greager, Edw. S. Filbert, Chas. G. Niece, Carl J Weigand, John R. Taggart, Oscar G. Matthews, Earl A. Moser, Herbert K. Lennox, Robert A. Schick, Reuben I. Webber, Harry Fisher, Wm H. Speacht, Andrew S. Kimmel. and Harry C. Steidle.

The present elective officers of Pulaski Lodge consist of Norman A. Dietrich, Worshipful Master; John P. McCord, Jr., Senior Warden; Harry F. Koenig, Junior Warden; Jas. E. Morris, P. M., Treasurer; Russell E. Muench, Secretary; Wm. H. Chandler, P. M., Conrad K. Hock and Walter B. Straub, Trustees and Jas. E. Morris, P. M., Representative in the Grand Lodge.

The appointed officers are as follows: Chaplain, Edgar V. Messersmith; Senior Deacon, Herbert L. Stephenson; Junior Deacon, Norman H. Barnes; Senior Master of Ceremonies, Daniel F. Herb; Junior Master of Ceremonies, J. Franklin Jenkins; Pursuivant, Walter V. Eberle, Tyler, Frank F. Gottschall; Steward, Robert Stitzel and Chas. F. Miller; Committee on Grievance, Chas. E. Downey, P. M.; Harold E. Smith, P. M.; Oscar G. Matthews, P. M.; Chas. G. Niece, P. M.; Julian F. Ulmer, P. M.; Committee on Charity, Gustav A. Muehlhof, P. M.; Andrew S. Kimmel, P. M.; Reuben I. Webber, P. M.; Committee on Furniture, John P. McCord, Jr.; Wm. F. Weber, P. M.; Robert Stitzel; Committee on Finance, Harry C. Steidle. P. M.; Andrew S. Kimmel, P. M.; Wm. H. Speacht, P. M.; Grand Mas-

ter's Appointment, Jas. E. Morris. D. G. G. M., Dist. No. 11. The present membership is 355.

As Masons, all the members are vitally interested in the wonderful work which is being accomplished at the Masonic Homes at Elizabethtown and the members of Pulaski Lodge feel that they have a real share through the generosity of Brother John W. Wilbraham, who was initiated Aug. 11, 1856, who upon his death at Cape May, Aug 19, 1922, bequeathed securities of a par value of $100,000 to the Grand Lodge for the Masonic Homes.

Some of the early members who were active in lodge work were Henry A. Aechternacht, Benj. Bannan, Dr. Daniel W. Bland, Benj. W. Cumming, Dr. John T. Carpenter, Andrew B. Cochran, Jesse Drumheller, James Ellis, George W. Eiler, Alex S. Faust, Dr. Peter K. Filbert, Robert C. Green, Judge David B. Green, Levi Huber, Frank P. Kaercher, Riollay F. Lee, Wm. H. Lewis, Samuel M. Mortimer, Col Daniel Nagle, Henry Pleasants, Wm D. Pollard, Andrew Robertson, Geo M. Smith, Harvey Scott, Joshua K. Sigfried, Heber S. Thompson, Jacob Ulmer, Chas. W. Van Dusen, Wm L. Whitney, David G. Yuengling, Sr.

Henry S. Sterner, veteran expressman of W. Norwegian St., has been a member for 66 years; John Gillars, father-in-law of Dr. Julian F. Flaig, has been a member for 62 years and Chas. F. Trough, Accountant for the Pottsville Steam Heat Co., for the past 60 years.

Pottsville Lodge

The Pottsville Lodge No. 730, Free and Accepted Masons constitution was held in the Lodge Room, on the 4th floor of the Pomeroy building, Centre and Mahantongo Sts., on June 10, 1924. Preceeding the constitution, a banquet was served at the Schuylkill Country Club at Orwigsburg. The first initiation was held on July 17th, 1924. Richard H. Householder, a nephew of Dr. Merchant C. Householder, Senior Warden of the Lodge, together with Clyde E. Long, Chas. Haussmann, Judge Clarence Asa Whitehouse and Wm. E. Quinlin were the candidates. The present membership is 230.

The warrant members were: Geo. B. Hadesty, Jas. Darrell Smith, Herbert T. Quinn, Clarence E. Kendrick, Edw. S. Rudloff, Herman G. Rhoads, J. Gowen Hood, Merchant C. Householder, Geo. M. Keiser, Thos. H. Beddall, I. Henry Lidy, Isaac D. Thomas, Wm. J. Schick, Lloyd T. Brandon, Wm. C. Green. John W. Hadesty, Geo. Boyd Hadesty, Jos. F. Seiders, Wm. C. Muehlhof, Chas. W. Gerhard, Wm. P. Zimmerman, Wm. S. Pugh, Owen L. Underwood.

At the constitution of the Lodge, the officers were as follows: Wm. S. Pugh, Worshipful Master; Merchant C. Householder, Senior Warden; Edw. S. Rudloff, Junior Warden; Jos. F. Seiders, Treas.; Wm P. Zimmerman, Secy.; Isaac D. Thomas, Chaplain; John W. Hadesty, Senior Deacon; Chas. W. Gerhard, Junior Deacon; J. Darrell Smith, Senior Master of Ceremonies; I. Henry Lidy, Junior Master of Ceremonies; Wm. C. Muehlhof, Pursuivant and Chas. W. Pickel, Lodge 216, Tyler.

The elective officers at the present writing consist of: Worshipful Master, Curtis S. Strause; Senior Warden, Geo. J. Boltz; Junior Warden, Geo. E. Seiders; Treas., Jos. F. Seiders; Secy., J. Darrell Smith; Trustees, Geo. B. Hadesty, Wm. Reid and Aaron Moore; Representative in Grand Lodge, Wm. S. Pugh, P. M.

The Appointive Officers are: Chaplain, Conrad B. Sillyman; Senior Deacon, Geo. T. Smith; Junior Deacon, John P. Evans; Senior Master of Ceremonies, Chas. C. Boyer; Junior Master of Ceremonies, Lester K. Stout; Pursuivant, Anthony A. Raetz; Tyler, John F. Felker; Stewards, Warren A. Malick and Geo. L. Zeh; Committee of Grievances, Wm. S. Pugh, P. M., Herbert T. Quin, P. M., M. C. Householder, P. M., J. Arthur Sylvester, P. M., and Owen L. Underwood; Committee on Charity, John W. Hadesty, P. M., Chas. Haussmann, John H. Kopp and A. Tennyson Miller; Committee on Furniture, Howard S. Fernsler, P. M., Chas. C. Hock, Fred W. Zilker, John J. Jones and Jesse L. Steidle; Committee on Instruction, G. Edgar Kline, P. M., Geo. J. Boltz, John I. Fasold, P. M., and George E. Seiders.

The Past Masters have been: Wm. S. Pugh, M. C. Householder, Edw S. Rudloff, John W. Hadesty, Herbert T. Quin, J. Arthur Sylvester, Robert M. Freeburn, G. Edgar Kline, John I. Fasold and Howard S. Fernsler.

Orwigsburg Lodge

Schuylkill Lodge No. 138, of Orwigsburg has the honor of being the oldest Masonic Lodge in the County, having been constituted June 7, 1813. On June 7th, 1913. the Lodge celebrated its 100th anniversary with a fitting celebration.

The officers at the constitution were as follows: Theophilus Hughes, Worshipful Master; Robert Scott, Sr. Warden; Samuel Lewis, Jr. Warden; Richard Heath, Treas., and Wm. Nice, Secy. They first met in the I. O. O. F. Hall, then in Fegley's Hall for a time but since 1913, have met in their own building. Hiester S. Albright was the Treasurer of this Lodge for years and was one of its most active members until his death.

The present officers are as follows: John J. Ernst, WM.; George C. Deibert, SW.; Arthur G. Boyer, JW.; Alfred M. Miller, Treas.: Harry W. Smith, Secy.

P. Ms.—Edw. W. Skean, Cornelius W. Diefenderfer, Gustavus Samuel, Geo. T. Folmer, Ellwood K. Steckel, John S. Zulick, Morris H. Moyer, Lin B. Zulick, Alfred M. Miller, Herbert H. Lee, E. Raymond Linder, Edw. H. D. Reed, Harry W. Smith, Walter C. Reed, Maurice D. Walborn, John A. Werner, Harry W. Day, Harold C. Shoener, W. Alfred Dietrich, Harry O. Werner John F. Krater, Arthur L. Zulick, Thos. J. Anthony, Wm. A. C. Eby, Geo. G. Miller, Linwood P. Krater, Geo. W. Hubler, John Z. Haeseler, Harry L. Lessig, Harry G. Fegley. R. G. L., Nevin L. Wuchter.

Trustees—John F. Krater, Harry O. Werner, Geo. W. Hubler.

Minersville Lodge No. 222

Minersville Lodge No. 222, F. & A. M. was constituted on Dec. 7th, 1846 with Wm. H. Robins, Samuel Gumpert, C. S. Foster, Moritz Heilner, Henry W. Lewis, Samuel Heilner and J. F. G. Kumsius as the charter members. They meet in the Odd Fellows Hall every second Thursday at the present time.

The elective officers are: Jas. O Griffiths, WM.; Alfred J. Tobias, SW.; Earl L. Welker, JW.; Robert E. Felsburg, P. M., Treas.; Robert H. Gilgore, P. M., Secy.; Trustees, Clarence F. Ludwig, P. M., Frederick J. Wiest, P. M. and Harry I. Martz, P. M. and Representative in Grand Lodge, John W. Kutzer, P. M.

The appointed officers are: Wm. H. Callender, P. M., Chaplain; Chas A. Klenk, Sr. Deacon; Geo. J. Scott, Jr. Deacon; Jos. Parry, Sr. Master of Ceremonies; Gethen J. Lewis, Jr. Master of Ceremonies; John E.

Griffith, Pursuivant and Geo. M. Telford, Tyler.

P. Ms.—W. J. Felsburg, Frederick W. Schaefer, Henry Neuser, Wm. H. Caswell, Lewis F. Bausch, Daniel H. McGee, Wm. H. Callender, Frederick J. Wiest, Geo. W. Hay, John F. Hay, Harry M. Lyons, Robert H. Gilgore, Clarence F. Ludwig, Thos. Price, Jr., Robert E. Felsburg, Wm. I. Morgan, Philip Russell, Harry I. Martz, Oliver S. Swartz, Donald W. Warner, Benj. H. Hay, Thos. P. Phillips, Jas. A. Greager, Chas. H. Rosenfelder, Wm. M. Price, Harry T. Parnell, John W. Kutzer, R. C. I.

Tamaqua Lodge No. 238

Tamaqua Lodge No. 238 dates back to July 13, 1849 when the Lodge was constituted. The meetings were held in the hall on the third floor of the Seligman building on Broad St., until they built their present Temple, at Broad and Nescopeck Sts., after which the meeting place was transferred to their own building.

The officers are as follows: Raymond W. Keefer, WM.; LeRoy H Shifferstine, SW.; Frederick L Meredith, JW.; Samuel R. Beard, Treas.; Bertram E. Berner, Secy.

P. Ms.—C. B. Dreher, G. M. Davies, O. K. Speer, L. H. Deck, A. N Stewart, E. E. Shifferstine, C. B. Rutter, G. R. Tracy, H. H. Kneis W. S. Deck, G. A. Kohler, S. H Davies, W. R. Thomas, W. J. Wendel, C. Baily, E. M. Hirsh, B. E Berner, J. A. Baily, C. W. Davies C. J. A. Schilbe, Ralph L. Wier, Elmer E. Evans, Aaron B. Kern. Curtis H. Bauer, Jacob W. Schafer. Arthur L. Reese, R. G. L.

Trustees—Clement J. A. Schilbe, John M. Harris, Samuel H. Folk, Jr.

Swatara Lodge

Swatara Lodge No. 267 at Tremont, installed its first officers on Jan. 24th, 1853. They were as follows: Thompson A. Godfrey, WM.; John B. McCreary, SW.; John Brandt, JR.; Wm. Bickel, Treas; Aaron Eckert, Secy.; Washington Bigler, Sr. Deacon; Frederick Wertheimer, Jr. Deacon, and John Deibler, Tyler.

The Lodge met for a number of years on the third floor of the Schultz building, Main and Railroad Sts., after which they moved to the I. O. O. F. building where they met for a short time. They then went to their present building on Main St., which the Lodge purchased and renovated.

The present officers are: Elmer A. Keiser, WM.; Guy L. Barr, SW.; Gurney R. Seitz, JW.; Jos. T. Foulds, Treas., Faion E. Yoder, Secy.

P. Ms.—C. M. Kaufman, E. W. Taylor, L. S. Wolcott, J. A. Simon, B. F. Stuck, E. E. Kaercher, B. R. Evans, R. S. Bashore, J. Maguire, H. F. Wigmore, H. Weir, E. J. Henninger, H. G. Herb, H. H. Otto, J. M. Kissinger, A. Hatter, C. S. Kehler, F. E. Yoder, G. V. Kalb, J. T. Foulds, E. E. Heckert, S. P. Miller, R. M. Bashore, Richard G. Hatter, Wm. E. Jones, Fred C. Hatter, John F. Goodman, Rufus O. Umholtz Christian A. Stutzman, Russell A. Deibler, R. G. L.

Trustees--Andrew Hatter, Samuel P. Miller, Leslie T. Jones.

Page Lodge at Sch. Haven

Page Lodge No. 270, of Schuylkill Haven, met for years in a hall on the 4th floor of the Hotel Grand. From there, they moved to their present quarters on the third floor of the Sch. Haven Trust Co. building.

The officers are as follows: John H. Betz, WM.; Wm. H. Yoder, SW.; Weinert P. Miller, JW.; John D. Berger, Treas.; Harvey R. Heim, Secy.

P. Ms.—S. B. Palsgrove, W. H. Mellon, I. A. Loeb, M. Barr, J. D. Berger, W. M. Bast, J. H. Filbert, C. C. Snayberger, H. R. Heim, H. K. Schumacher, H. L. Berger, G. A. Berger, P. J. Miller, C. S. Commings, F. B. Reed, H. O. Barr, D. A. Greenwald, G. E. Gangloff, J. F. Gehrig, W. T. Lengel, G. W. Achenbach, S. E. Sausser, E. B. Pflueger, C. C. Schaffner, J. S. Reichert, Edwin J. Gerhard, Robert L. Sausser, Harold Krammes, Raymond R. Sterner, Donald L. Eiler, LeRoy C. Shollenberger, Elmer A. Roeder, R. G. L.

Trustees — Walter M. Bast, J. Harry Filbert, Edw. C. Graver.

Anthracite Lodge, St. Clair

Anthracite Lodge No. 285, St. Clair was constituted Dec. 5th, 1853. The elective officers are: Jos. N. Foster, Mill Creek Manor, WM.; John M. Farne, SW.; Abram H. Jones, JW.; Samuel H. Daddow, P. M., Treas.; David Reese, P. M., Secy.; Chas. H. Short, Huston R Moyer and Percy Reese, Trustees; and Frank C. Yingst, P. M., Representative in Grand Lodge.

The appointed officers are: Huston R. Moyer, P. M., Chaplain, Chas. R. Birch, Sr., Deacon; Russell C. Haslam, Jr. Deacon; David G. Evans, Sr., Master of Ceremonies; Evan J. Evans, Jr., Master of Ceremonies; Chas. J. Crawshaw, Pursuivant, and Chas. W. Heller, Tyler.

P. Ms.—C. H. Short, C. E. Breckons, J. A. Beir, W. J. Evans, F. C. Yingst, R. G. L., J. P. Morris, W. T. Taylor, H. T. Davis, C. R. Stevens, H. R. Moyer, P. Reese, J. H. Winn, W. W. Thorn, W. J. Marbaker, D. Reese, T. R. Millington, Charles B. Williams, Charles E. Roberts, J Leslie Davis, Nathaniel S. Sterner, George W. Johns, Samuel H. Daddow, Evan Reese.

The lodge met for years in the I. O. O. F. Hall until they purchased their present building and added a third story to it and occupied it in 1925. A short time later, the building was partly destroyed by fire. They rebuilt it and now have a very convenient meeting hall and social rooms.

Ashland Lodge No. 294

Ashland Lodge No. 294 meets in its own building. The first officers installed on March 12, 1855 were as follows: David J. Lewis, Worshipful Master; E. R. Carr Wilson, Senior Warden; John H. Yocum, Jr. Warden; Jas. J. Conner, Treas.; David J. McKibbin, Secy.; Washington Reifsnyder, Wm. Levy and Isaac F. Davis.

R. Bruce Clayton, father of Nelson J. Clayton, of Pottsville, was Secretary of this lodge and an active member up until the time of his death.

The present officers are: Wellington J. Madenfort, WM.; Rudolph Preiser, SW.; Roy Hunter, JW.; J. Louis Hoffman, Treas.; Howard F. Yost, Secy.

P. Ms.—Samuel J. Troutman, Frank L. Buck, Edwin C. Price, Wm. R. Landefeld, Harry J. Buck, Jas. W. Thompson, Edw. J. Troutman, Howard F. Yost, J. Louis Hoffman, Wm. C. Shoemaker, Walter G. Treibly, Wm. A. Seitzinger, Thos. R. Eltringham, Jos. Mervine, C. Grant Sterner, Geo. Troutman, Geo. W. Miller, Mahlon C. Cleaver, Ralph S. Job, Harry M. Meyers Thomas B. Tracey, Frederick C Benfield, Albert W. Price, Harry C. Small, Raymond R. Major, Harry L. Natschke, John Rusk, Herbert S. Love, Robert E. Meartz, R. G. L.

Trustees—Walter G. Treibly, Geo. F. Rentz, John E. Stivitts, Jr.

Mahanoy City Lodge

For years, the Mahanoy City Lodge No. 357 held their meetings in the Parmley Building, Main and Catawissa Sts., from which place they moved to their present quarters in the Kleden Building where they have a beautiful Lodge Hall and social rooms.

The present officers are as follows: Burton Kester, WM.; Harry D Houser, SW.; Evan Williams, JW.; George G. Lewis, Treas.; Calvin H. Meyer, Secy

P. Ms.—Joshua D. Jones, Thos L. Thomas, John W. Phillips, Gustavus E. Blew, Geo. G. Tregellas. Henry K. Christ, Ira W. Barnes Robert E. Wagner, Frederick R. Wagner, John W. Kessler, Frank B Prosser, John W. Price, Milton E. Crawshaw, Wallace F. Biltz, Andrew C. Richelderfer, Dellwyn S. Wolfe, Calvin R. Meyers, L. Olin H Phillips, Jas. G. Blankenhorn, Leon M. Brobst, George G. Lewis, Richard J. Whitcomb, Jas. Buchanan, Wm. J. Faust, John D. Giffin, C. Gregory Richelderfer, John F. Davies, Harry S. Williams, Wm. O Tempest, Benj. F. Holin, R. G. L.

Trustees—Thos. L. Thomas, Jas. Buchanan, Jas. G. Blankenhorn.

The late Thos. L. Hess was a Past Master of this lodge and was secretary for more than 40 years Thos. L. Thomas, who passed away on March 20, 1934, was one of the most active members of the Lodge and in all Masonic activities in and about Mahanoy City.

Pinegrove Lodge

Pinegrove Lodge No. 409 was constituted April 21st, 1868. The Lodge met from time to time in several halls and in the upper floor of the school building. From there, they removed to their present quarters in the Majestic Theatre building. They have purchased the adjoining property and propose to change the building into Lodge quarters for themselves.

The officers are as follows: John A. Potts, WM.; Harold A. Wertz, SW.; Wm. C. Werner, JW.; John H. Aungst, Treas.; John A. Schlappich Secy.

P. Ms.—E. K. Barto, Alfred Gilbert, Wm. L. Kirn, John A. Richter, Harry H. Christ, Geo. W. Dubbs, Phaon E. Sheidy, Arwin J. Fidler, Wm. J. Netherwood, Chas. A. Roeder, Wm. H. Brown, John B. Krause. Wm. S. Fox, Oscar F. Emerick, John A. Schlappich, Wm. E. Frye, Chas. E. Spancake, Warren C. Schaeffer, Harry Z. Gensemer, Henry Yoder. Jas. M. Zerbe, Harry W. Schwalm, Wm. R. Mease, Elvin R. Smith, Ellsworth R. Kaufman, Allen Q. Schwalm, Stamford S. Schwalm, Salter A. Schwartz, Harrison H. Adams, Elvin A. Adams, John E. Owens, Russell H. Whetstone, Arthur G. Kline, R. G. L.

Trustees—Wm. S. Fox, Allen Q. Schwalm, John E. Owens.

Cressona Lodge

Cressona Lodge No. 426, F. & A. M. was constituted on Nov. 5, 1868. Their first meeting place was the Springer House located about one square from their present quarters in the I. O. O. F. building.

The officers at present are as follows: Oscar C. Freeman, WM.; Wm. M. Barr, SW.; Wm. J. Krammes, JR.; Wm. L. McLaren. PM. Treas.; Wm. M. Smith, Secy.

Trustees—Chas. F. Beck, P. M.. Wm. J. Beck, P. M., Isaac G. Beck, P. M. and Representative in Grand Lodge, Chas. E. Smith. Appointed Officers are as follows: Chas. E. Frey, P. M., Chaplain; Franklin P. Loy, Sr., Deacon; Chas. H. Hein, Jr., Deacon; Wm. E. Berger, Sr., Master of Ceremonies; Heber S. Riland, Jr., Master of Ceremonies; Wm. H. Trometter, P. M., Tyler; John D. Loy, Pursuivant; Stewards, Wm. L.

McLaren, P. M., Wm. H. Trometter, P. M.

Shenandoah Lodge

Shenandoah Lodge No. 511 was granted a warrant by the Grand Lodge upon petition of Jas. Wooley, Jos. S. Richards, Edw. R. Breckons, Johnathan Wasley, J. Miller Raub, Jas. G. Hardy, Richard Knight John Cather, Dalrymple Muir, Robert A. Glover, Jeremiah H. Mears, Joel B. McCamant, Frederick J Portz, John W. Morgan, Wm. Grant, Geo. L. Reagan, John G. Davis, Jos. S. Beddall, Wm. Krick, and Joseph Knight.

The Lodge was constituted Sept. 25, 1872 with Wm. Grant as Worshipful Master; Johnathan Wasley Sr. Warden and Joel B. McCamant, Jr. Warden, Alexander Kincaid, who died early in March, 1934, was a member of this Lodge for more than 50 years and during that time, was a regular attendant at its meetings and a trustee of the lodge for many years.

The officers at present: Rev. John P. Briggs, WM.; Wm. S. Roberts, SW.; Richard A. Lewis, JW.; Christian Gruhler, Treas.; Wm. Reeves Secy.

P. Ms.—Alexander Kinkaid, Horace E. Dengler, Thos. R. Edwards, Elwood B. Brumm, Jas. S. Williams, Frank Schmidt, Isaac N. Griffiths, John A. Kinkaid, Wm. May. Jenkin Prosser, Christian Gruhler Edw. C. Malick, Wm. H. Williams, Elmer R. Beers, Fred W. Hooks, Ephraim R. Beddall, Wm. Reeves, Wesley Boyd, Edwin R. Williams. Edwin R. Swoyer, Owen M. Williams, Elmer F. Young, Philip J. Paul, Gomer E. Reese, Reverdy J Stover, David A. Kleckner, Oscar H. Boyer, Elmer Davis, Frederick J Foltz, Clarence J. Reeves, Wm. P. Bunn, R. G. L.

Trustees—Henry H. Zulick, and Emil H. Ratzburg.

Frackville Lodge No. 737

Frackville Lodge No. 737 meets in the Masonic Hall, the third floor of the Haupt Building, 25 W. Frack St. The Lodge was instituted on May 21st, 1925, by Samuel M. Goodyear, 33rd Degree, R. W. Grand Master; Jas. E. Morris, 33rd, Acting R. W. Deputy Grand Master, Wm. H. Musser; 33rd, Acting R. W. Senior Grand Warden; Jas. I. Creasy, Acting R. W. Junior Grand Warden. Chas. E. Roberts, R. W. Grand Warden; John A. Perry, 33rd, R. W. Grand Secty.; Rev. Raymond C. Walker, Grand Chaplain; Rev. Wesley Boyd, Grand Chaplain; Henry R. Barr, 33rd, Senior Grand Dean, Wm. S. Pugh, 33rd, Junior Grand Dean; Geo. B. Wells, 33rd, Grand Marshall, and Wm. B. Joslyn, 33rd, Grand Tyler. At the time of the institution, a banquet was served to 260 in the social room of the Lutheran Church.

The officers were installed May 25th, 1925 as follows: A. Hower Glick, Worshipful Master; Judge Roy P. Hicks, 33rd, Senior Warden; Raymond H. Hicks, Jr. Warden; Robert G. Garrett, Treas.; Roy J. Morgan, Secy., and Wm. R. Trautman, 33rd, Representative.

The present officers are: Joel L. Felsburg, WM.; Victor E. Burchill, SW.; Laurence E. Morgan, JW.; Robert G. Garrett, Treas.; Roy J. Morgan, Secy.

P. Ms.—Albert H. Glick, Wm. R. Trautman, Robert G. Garrett, Roy P. Hicks, Raymond H. Hock, Thos. J. Lewis, Arthur H. Kesselring, Geo. E. Mucklow, John L. Habel, Albert T. McCabe, Jas. R. Eisenhower.

Trustees—Samuel Endy, D. Franklin Hoppes, Roy P. Hicks.

Panther Valley Lodge

The Panther Valley Lodge of Masons, No. 677, has been in existence since 1914, having been constituted on May 4th of that year.

The present officers are as follows: Kermit L. Hoffman, WM.; Joseph L. Watson, SW.; Jos. A. Richards, JW.; John J. Richards. Treas.; Louis Riebe, Secy.

P. Ms.—Isaac M. Davies, Harry M. Boyd, Robert O. Klotz, Daniel Davis, James A. Cunningham, Harry Wynn, Edward Evans, Reuben L Seip, R. G. L., Robert M. Forrest. Thos. D. Aiken, Jas. Bynon, Jacob L. Grandhomme, Leroy S. Morgan. Wm. J. Watkins, Chas. P. Betz, Chas. B. Elsasser, Thos. B. Richards, Thos. F. Price, Norman F. Houser.

Trustees—Thos. J. Jenkins, Isaac M. Davies, Grant M. Kistler.

Tall Cedars of Lebanon

Schuylkill Forest No. 50 Tall Cedars of Lebanon, was organized at Pottsville more than fourteen years ago. It now has a membership, in good standing, of close to 375.

This organization is referred to as the "playground" of Masonry, Schuylkill Forest was instituted by Neversink Forest No. 32, of Reading, on the night of Feb. 9, 1920 The delegation comprised about 200 members and officers of the Berks County Forest.

There was a total of 145 charter members. The original officers were: Grand Tall Cedar, Paul L. G. Hasskarl; Senior Deputy Grand Tall Cedar, Maurice D. Walborn; Junior Deputy Grand Tall Cedar. Robert S. Hoffman; Treasurer, Walter P. Follett; Scribe, Paul H. Ammon.

Treasurer Follett was succeeded by the late Wm. J. Schick. Upon the latter's death, his son, Paul A Schick, was honored by being elected to the berth. He served until the close of 1930 when, because of removal from the city, he submitted his resignation.

Edward F. Madenford was chosen as successor to Mr. Schick and C. J. Teeple was elected to succeed Mr. Madenford on the completion of the latter's term.

Paul H. Ammon served as Scribe during the years 1920 and 1921. He was succeeded by the present official, Samuel Jones.

The Past Grand Tall Cedars of the Schuylkill Forest are: Paul L. G. Hasskarl, who served during 1920; Harry C. Weitzel, 1921 and 1922; Wm. T. Lengel, 1923; Jas. C West, 1924; Paul A. Schick, 1925; Harry F. Bushar (deceased), 1926; Oscar G. Matthews, 1927; Earl P. Fertig, 1928; Julian F. Ulmer, 1929; Harold W. Lewars, 1930 and 1931; Walter C. Gottschall, 1932; and Geo. A. Stroup, 1933.

Since the institution of the Schuylkill Forest, it sent representatives to the following national conventions: 1921, at Atlantic City; 1922, Newark, N. J.; 1923, Atlantic City; 1924, Camden, N. J.; 1925, Atlantic City; 1926, Providence, Rhode Island; 1927, Harrisburg, Pa.; 1928. Atlantic City; 1929, Baltimore, Md.; 1930, Newark; 1931 and 1932, Atlantic City; 1933, Washington, D. C.; 1934, Asbury Park, N. J.

Grand Tall Cedar (incumbent official) Jonathan P. Clauser and Past Grand Tall Cedar G. Albert Stroup, both of Pottsville, represented Schuylkill Forest at the Asbury Park convention.

The present officers of Schuylkill Forest are: Grand Tall Cedar, Jonathan P. Clauser; Senior Deputy Grand Tall Cedar, Lester E. Schlaseman; Junior Deputy Grand Tall Cedar, Harry Fisher; Treasurer, Carl J. Weigand; Scribe, Samuel Jones; Trustees, Jas. C. West, Harry C. Weitzel and Geo. A. Stroup.

Eastern Star Chapter

The Pottsville Chapter No. 305, Order of Eastern Star was consti-

tuted on May 27th, 1920 in the Parish House of the Trinity Episcopal Church. The Grand Officers present were: Mrs. Sallie B. Hancock, Grand Matron; Fred Boyer Grand Patron; Mrs. Adelaide Barnes. Grand Secretary, and Miss Martha Mason, Dist. Deputy Grand Matron

There were about 300 visitors present and the Order had 50 charter members. Supper was served by Miss Amy Stephens to the visitors and charter members. At 8 P. M., the officers were installed as follows: Mrs. Elizabeth K. Schrader Worthy Matron, Mrs. Ella T. Gill ars, Conductress, and Mrs. Margaret Naher, Associate Conductress.

There is a present membership of about two hundred and the meetings are held in the Masonic Building the first Wednesday of the month. The Order of the Eastern Star has a membership of 80,000 in Penna. and maintains two homes for its aged and needy members one near Pittsburgh and one in Germantown, Pa. It had an Educational Fund for the educational needs of the boys and girls of its members and aids in many of the local charitable institutions.

The present Elective Officers are as follows: Worthy Matron, Mrs Bertha V. Kelly; Associate Matron, Mrs. Emma W. Schell; Secretary, Miss Carrie T. Hess; Treasurer, Mrs. Margaret Thornburg; Conductress. Mrs. Rachel Baker and Associate Conductress, Mrs. Kathryn I. Boltz The Trustees are: Mrs. Anna M Staudt, P. W. M., Mrs. Frances Murray, P. W. M., and Mrs. Elsie K Schneider, P. W. M.

The appointive officers are: Adah. Miss Frances Waters; Ruth, Mrs Margaret Lewis; Esther, Miss Jean M. Schneider; Martha, Mrs. Beatrice Teeple; Electa, Miss Anna M. Trout; Chaplain, Mrs. Bertha D Emery; Marshal, Mrs. Maybel Eiler; Organist, Miss Orrie Kaiser; Warden, Mrs. Ida Manhart; Sentinel, Mrs. Naomi Long, and Grand Representative of Kentucky, Miss Grace Kershner, P. W. M.

Since its institution, the Chapter has been under the leadership of the following: Mrs. Eliz. Schrader, Miss Carrie T. Hess, Mrs. Ella Gillars, Mrs. Margaret Naher, Mrs. Edith Kirkpatrick, Mrs. Esther Livingston, Miss Grace M. Kershner, Mrs. Ida Kenney, Mrs. Susan Britton, Mrs. Helen Leidich, Mrs. Esther Emhardt, Mrs. Anna Staudt, Mrs Frances Murray, Mrs. Elsie Schneider, and Mrs. Bertha V. Kelly.

Throughout the year, the members and their friends participate in and enjoy many social functions. Perhaps the outstanding event is the celebration of the chapter's anniversary in the Spring.

Galilean Shrine No. 34

The Galilean Shrine No. 34 was instituted on March 28, 1931, in the ballroom of the Necho Allen Hotel. The organizers of the new shrine, the object of which is to demonstrate the beauty of religion, were Anna M. S. Staudt of Pottsville and Blanche E. Masser, of Orwigsburg. All of the women taking part in the institution were dressed in white.

In the evening, a complimentary dinner was given by the Galilean Shrine and 320 members of the White Shrine of Jerusalem, including the officers of Tiberius Shrine, Reading, were guests. The Rev. W. J. Masser, of Orwigsburg was the speaker of the evening and Anna M Staudt was toastmaster. At the conclusion of the program, those attending went to the Masonic Temple where a ceremonial was conducted.

The officers of the first year were as follows: Worthy High Priestess, Anna M. Staudt; Watchman of Shepherds, Susan R. Britton; Noble Prophetess, Blanche B. Masser; Worthy Scribe, Clara B. Bergman; Worthy Treasurer, Marie Flail; Worthy Chaplain, Beulah Shellhammer; Worthy Shepherdess, Iva Bittle; Worthy Guide, Elsie Henninger.

Appointed Officers: Worthy Herald, Helen Flail; 1st Wise Man, Kate Berger; 2nd Wise Man, Emma Goas; 3rd Wise Man, Kate Schumacher; King, Jeannette Flail; Queen, Edna Evans; 1st Handmaiden, Susan Yost; 2nd Handmaiden, Beulah Knoll; 3rd Handmaiden, Bertha V. Kelly; Organist, Stella Walborn; Worthy Guardian, Mary Bast; Worthy Guard, Edith Kirpatrick; Maid of Honor, Elsie K. Schneider; Flower Girl, Mae Jones; Train Bearer, Anna Dove.

King's Guards: Elsie English, Captain; Mildred English, Carrie Heckert, Harriet Heckert, Olive Trout. Anna Ashleman, Mary Williams, Laura Stephenson, Catherine Wetzel, Martha Krebs, Mary Wetzel.

Madonna: Mary H. Miller.

Queen's Attendants: Ruth Minemacher, Eva Reiner, Mae Simmons, Mae Runkle, Marjorie Kepner, Helen Daubert, Mae Moyer, Carrie Oren.

Shepherds: Dorothy Carls, Elizabeth Foltz, Mary Reese.

The present elected officers are: Worthy High Priestess, Iva Bittle; Watchman of Shepherds, Beulah M Shellhammer; Noble Prophetess, Elsie Henninger; Worthy Scribe, Clara Bergman; Worthy Treasurer, Elsie Schneider; Worthy Chaplain, Margaret Strause; Worthy Shepherd, Anna Dove; Worthy Guide, Bessie Cookson; Trustees, Susan Britton, Anna Staudt, Blanche Masser; Worthy Herald, Helen Flail; King, Jeanette Flail; Queen, Beatrice Albertson; Worthy Guardian, Lottie Lowe; Worthy Guard, Elizabeth Kistler; Flower Girl, Verdie Oswald; Train Bearer, Beulah Knoll; Maid of Honor, Carrie Oren; Organist, Stella Walborn.

Appointed Officers are as follows: First Wise Man, Martha Krebs; Second Wise Man, Kate Schumacher; Third Wise Man, Mary Williams; First Handmaid, Mildred English Bernd; Second Handmaid, Mary Wetzel; Third Handmaid, Ethel Barr; Kings Guards, Elsie English, Capt., Harriet Heckert, Carrie Heckert, Emma Goas, Kate Berger, Kate Beck, Hattie Keinsling, Laura Stephenson, Margaret Jenkins, Lina Hinkin, Ida Williams, and Marie Flail; Shepherdesses, Beatrice Teeple, Dorothy Bachman, and Helen Walton; Madonna, Anna E. Burkhardt; Queen's Attendants, Mae Simmons, Phronie Hatter, Vica Schumacher, May Bashore, Mary Kenney, Sue Yost, Anna Tobias, Elizabeth Jones, Verna Schaeffer, Josephine Steidle, Margaret Snyder and Bertha Fahl; Flag Bearers, Antoinette Toussaint, Ethel Toussaint and Pearl Koschmeder; Courier, Margaret Thornburg; Past Officers, W. H. P., Anna M. Staudt, Blanche E. Masser, and Beulah M. Shellhammer; Honorary Member, Helen E. Gerhardt, P. W. H. P.; Past Officers. W. of S., Susan R. Britton, Anna M. Staudt, and Blanche E. Masser.

Seven Royal Arch Chapters in Region

The Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Penna. on Dec. 27, 1933 was composed of 153 subordinate Chapters with a total membership of 53,800. Chas. H. Weaver, of Wilkes-Barre, is M. E. Grand High Priest; Albert T. Hanly, Phila., M. E. Grand King; Jas. C. Weir, Pitts-

burgh, M. E. Grand Scribe; Thos. McConnell, Jr., of Phila., M. E. Grand Treasurer; Jos. E. Quinby, Media, M. E. Grand Secy.

The subordinate Royal Arch Chapters comprising the Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapters of Penna. are divided into 26 districts of which the following chapters comprise District No. 8, which is presided over by M. E. Companion Andrew S. Kimmel, of Chapter No. 196, Dist. Deputy Grand High Priest of Pottsville: Schuylkill Chapter No. 159, Minersville; Tamaqua Chapter No 177, Tamaqua; Lilly Chapter No. 181, Mauch Chunk; Mountain City Chapter, No. 196, Pottsville; Griscom Chapter No. 219, Ashland; Tremont Chapter No. 221, Tremont; Mizpah Chapter No. 252, Mahanoy City.

The following have served as District Deputy Grand High Priests in charge of Chapters comprising District No. 8: Geo. P. Owen, Tremont; M. E. Companion Abraham K Whitner, David H. Seibert, Chas. F. Derr, Christian A. Seidel, Peter K. Filbert, J. Edw. Billheimer, Tamaqua; Jas. E. Morris, 33rd degree Mason, Frank C. Yingst, Pt. Carbon, Gustav A. Muehlhof and Andrew S. Kimmel.

Mountain City Royal Arch Chapter No. 196 was instituted March 29th, 1860 in the Bright Building. 181 Centre St., by virtue of a warrant dated Nov. 21st, 1859, granted by the Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Penna., constituting and appointing Companion Daniel Washburn, Most Excellent High Priest; Companion Washington Reifsnyder, King and Companion Wm. Milnes, Jr., Scribe.

The Charter members were: Daniel Washburn, Washington Reifsnyder, Wm. Milnes, Jr., Lawrence F. Whitney, Christopher Little, Decatur E. Nice, Jacob D. Rice, Henry K. Nichols, and Cornelius H. Tyson.

The present elective officers are as follows: M. E. High Priest, Harry Fisher; King, Robert A. Schick; Scribe, John I. Fasold; Treas., Harry E. Greager, P. H. P.; Chas. G. Niece, P. H. P. and Trustees, Harold E. Smith, P. H. P., Frank C. Yingst, P. H. P. and Jas. E. Morris, P. H. P.; Representative in Grand Chapter, J. Arthur Sylvester, P. H. P. and M. E. Grand High Priest's Appointment, Andrew S. Kimmel, D. D. G. H. P. Dist. No. 8.

The appointed officers are: J. A. Sylvester, Chaplain; William H. Speacht, Captain of the Host; Geo. J. Boltz, Principal Sojourner; Edw. A. Moser, Royal Arch Captain; Harry C. Steidle, Master of the Third Veil; Master of 2nd Veil, Harold W. Lewars; Geo. W. Webber, Master of the First Veil; Daniel F. Herb, Senior Master of Ceremonies; Lester K. Stoudt, Jr. Master of Ceremonies; Walter B. Straub, Guide; G. Edgar Kline, Pursuivant; Melvin L. Weiss, Tyler. The stewards are Robert Stitzel and Peter E. Boyer; Committee on Grievances, Julian F. Ulmer, P. H. P.; Chas. E. Smith, P. H. P.; John W. Hadesty, P. H. P.; Herbert K. Lennox, P. H. P., and J. Arthur Sylvester, P. H. P.

Mizpah Chapter at Mahanoy City

The Mizpah Chapter No. 252 Mahanoy City was instituted Feb. 1, 1875, with the following Charter members: Philip Conrad, Thos. L. Hess, Wesley Hammer, Isaac Y. Sollenberger, Samuel Parmley, Jacob L. Bricker, Edw. J. Phillips, Robert Littlehales, Jonathan Wasley, David Hutchinson, Jas. Wolley, Jas. Heaton, Jacob Mayer, Elias K. Weber, Frank Wenrich, John Phillips, Henry L. Williams, John Cathers, Chas. M. Wasley, Geo. F. Brendle, Phaon Hermany.

The elected officers are as follows at present; M. E. High Priest, Harry S. Williams; King, John D Giffin; Scribe, Benj. F. Hehn; Treas., Thos. L. Thomas, P. H. P.; Secy., Calvin R. Myers, P. H. P. The Trustees are: Geo. E. Heidenreich, P. H. P.; Frederick R. Wagner, P. H. P. and L. Olin H. Phillips, P. H. P. The Representative in the Grand Chapter is John F. Davies, P. H. P.

The Appointed Officers are: John F. Davies, Chaplain; Evan Williams, Captain of the Host; John B. Pierson, Principal Sojourner; Wilburt E. Oliver, Royal Arch Captain; S Burton Kester, Master of Third Veil; Harry D. Houser, Master of Second Veil; John L. Rosser, Master of First Veil; Wm. J. Marsh, Sr., Master of Ceremonies; Geo. D. Griffith, Jr., Master of Ceremonies; Gustave L. Shomgard, Guide; Roy J. Schnable, Pursuivant; Jas. L. Madenfort, P. H. P.; Tyler, Edw. C. Hensyl and Frederick C. Myers, and C. Curtis Fetterman, Stewards.

P. H. Ps.—Thos. L. Thomas, John W. Phillips, Chas. M. Plank, Abram P. Seligman, Dallas L. Vanhorn. Harry A. Kantner, Milton E. Crawshaw, George E. Heidenreich, Jas. L. Madenfort, Alexander Kinkaid, Robert E. Wagner, Frederick R. Wagner, David J. Lovering, Henry K. Christ, Harry A. Oday, Geo. G. Lewis, Jos. D. Lewis, Robert J Lutz, John W. Price, Wm. H. Eckhardt, L. Olin H. Phillips, Jas. G. Blenkenhorn, Andrew C. Richelderfer, Calvin R. Myers, Richard J. Whitcomb, Leo M. Brobst, Wm. O Tempest, C. Gregory Richelderfer. Jas. Buchanan, John H. Davis, R. G. C.

Trustees—Frederick R. Wagner. George E. Heidenreich, L. Olin H. Phillips.

Schuylkill Chapter

Schuylkill Chapter No. 159 met six months in Minersville and six months in Pottsville each year from the time of its constitution in 1836 until March 29, 1860, when Mountain City Royal Arch Chapter No. 196 was constituted in Pottsville.

The officers are as follows: Comp Harold A. Eichenberg, H. P.; John B. Troutman, Kg.; Harry I. Martz, Sc.; Lewis F. Bausch, Treas.; Robert H. Gilgore, Secy.

P. H. Ps.—Wm. J. Felsburg, Wm. H. Caswell, Harry F. Potter, Lewis F. Bausch, Wm. H. Callender, R. G. C.; John B. Troutman, Frederick J. Wiest, Thos. Price, Jr., Clarence F. Ludwig, Robert H. Gilgore, Robert E. Felsburg, Philip Russell, Benj. H. Hay, Harold A. Eichenberg.

Trustees—Fred J. Wiest, Wm. H Callender, Thos. P. Phillips.

Griscom Chapter, Ashland

The officers of Griscom Chapter No. 219, Ashland are: Comp., Dr. Peter B. Mulligan, HP.; Luther W Seitzinger, Kg.; Arthur A. Homberger, Sc.; Geo. F. Rentz, Treas.; Jas. Magrady, Secy., Locust Gap.

P. H. Ps.—Samuel J. Troutman, Jas. Magrady, Frank L. Buck, Howard F. Yost, Harry J. Buck, Edgar E. Shifferstine, J. Louis Hoffman. Jas. W. Thompson, Geo. F. Rentz. Walter G. Treibly, Edw. J. Troutman, Thos. A. Bevan, Frederick W. Magrady, John A. Kester, Joseph Mervine, Thos. J. Lewis, A. Hower Glick, Wm. R. Trautman, Ulysses A. Klees, John H. Dinklocker, Albert C. Schreiner, Harry C. Small, Harry M. Myers. Thos. B. Bracey, Chas. G. Rice, Robert E. Martz. Wm. S. Shoemaker, Earl G. Mason. J. Paul Bensinger, Harry L. Natschke, R. G. C.

Trustees—P. Adam Waldner, Jos Mervine, J. Louis Hoffman.

Tremont Chapter

The officers of Tremont Chapter No. 221 are as follows: Comp., D Oliver Ramberger, HP.; Christian

A. Stutzman, Kg.; Arthur R. Deibler, Sc.; Jos. T. Foulds, Treas.; Faion E. Yoder, Secy.

P. H. Ps.—Wm. W. Stewart, Edw. E. Kaercher, Frederick G. Kniley, John A. Simon, Theo. C. Fegley, Robert S. Bashore, Ira S. Wolcott, John W. E. Scott, Jos. Maguire, Wm. H. Brown, Henry F. Wigmore, Wm. T. Evans, William S. Fox, Henry H. Otto, Edw. J. Henninger, Henry Weir, John A. Schlappick, Clarence S. Kehler, George V. Kalb, Richard G. Hatter, Ralph M. Bashore, Faion E. Yoder, Guy L. Barr, John F Goodman, Emory E. Heckert, Frederick D. Russell, A. John Trotman, Samuel P. Miller, Rufus O. Umholtz, R. G. C.

Trustees—John A. Simon, Theo. C. Fegley, Robert S. Bashore, (now deceased).

Tamaqua Chapter

Tamaqua Chapter No. 177 has the following officers: Comp., Jacob L. Grandhomme, HP.; Thos. W. Boyer, Kg.; John H. Auchmuty, Sc.; Wm. J. Wendel, Treas.; Alexander L. Oliver. Secy.

P. H. Ps—Geo. M. Davies, Isaac M. Davies, Lewis H. Deck, Allan N. Stewart, Chas. B. Rutter, Frederick W. Scherer, Howard C. Fritsch, Geo. W. Enterline, John J. Kraemer, Alexander L. Oliver, Robert W. Michael, Wm. Williams, John N. Miller, Hayden Evans, Jas. Bynon, Bertram E. Berner, Carl D. Pratt, Wm. S. Deck, Chas. W. Davies, Curtis H. Bauer, Clement J. A. Schilbe, Jacob W. Schafer, Thos. B. Richards.

Trustees — Jas. Bynon, Hayden Evans, Frederick W. Scherer.

Lilly Chapter

The officers of Lilly Chapter No. 181, Mauch Chunk are as follows: Comp., Pierson A. Sorge, HP.; Pierce M. Daffner, Kg.; David J. Pearsall, Sc.; Frederick P. Kuntz, Treas.; Wilbur E. Nothstein, Secy.

P. H. Ps.—Herman Stoll, Wm. L. Yeager, Richard S. Ruddle, Ira G. Ross, R. G. C., Geo. Dreisbach, J. Edward Waaser, Oliver O. Jarrard, Ira E. Seidle, Geo. M. Ecker, Brinton M. Shull, Lewis S. Kemmerer, Harry A. Blakslee, Halliday R. Jackson, Geo. E. Gray, Wm. F. Thompson, Clement H. Bretney, Reuben L. Seip, Geo. P. Thomas, Jos. L. Watson, Frederick P. Kuntz, Walter C. Helman, Josiah W. H Behrens, J. Ford Fritzinger, Frank D. Scott, Wilbur E. Nothstein, Winfield R. Solomon, Herbert G. Sterner.

Trustees—O. O. Jarrard, Richard S. Ruddle, Harry A. Blakslee.

County Knights Templars in 7th Division

The 96 subordinate commanderies of the Knights Templar comprising the Grand Commandery of Pennsylvania are divided into 19 divisions. Constantine Commandery No. 41 Knights Templar, of Pottsville; De Molay Commandery No. 9, Reading; Reading Commandery, No. 42, Reading; Hermit Commandery No. 24, Lebanon Ivanhoe Commandery, No. 31, Mahanoy City, which formerly was located at Tamaqua; Prince of Peace Commandery, No. 39, of Ashland, comprise Division No. 7, which is in charge of E. Sir Wm. D. Raubenhold of the Reading Commandery No. 42 and residing in Hamburg.

The following have served as Division Commanders in charge of Div. No. 7: E. Sir Henry L.

Sotorious, 33rd degree Mason, of Reading; Frederick W. Lauer, of Reading; Thos. L. Thomas, Mahanoy City; Frederick W. Wagner, Mahanoy City, and Wm. D. Raubenhold, Hamburg.

Constantine Commandery No 41, Knights Templar dates back to April 7th, 1871 when a number of Sir Knights resolved to petition the Right Eminent Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery of the Knights Templar of Penna. for a dispensation. The petition was signed by Walter E. Sheafer, Chas. H. Dengler, Wm. H. Robinson, David H. Seibert, C. H. Woltjen, Roland Whitfield, James G. Lowrey, Wm. Beck, Peter Helms, Frank Carter, Robert A. Reid, Jacob D. Emhardt, Alex S. Sillyman, Henry J. Saylor, Obadiah L. Saylor, Louis H. Koch, Jas. K. Helms, Henry C. Voute, Thos. Wren, Wm. H. Bines and Henry B. Davis, all of Ivanhoe Commandery, Tamaqua; Thos. A. Reilly, of Crusade Commandery, No. 12, Bloomsburg; Jas. H. Beck, of DeMolay Commandery, No. 9, of Reading; Hon. Henry Souther, of Knapp Commandery, No. 40, Ridgway, Pa.; Aquilla J. Womelsdorf. of Hugh DePayne Commandery, No. 19, Easton; Rev. Levi B. Beckley, of Jerusalem Commandery, No. 15, of Phoenixville, and John Dawson, of St. John's Commandery, No. 4, Phila.

At a meeting held on April 28th, 1871, the name of "Constantine" was chosen and on May 10, 1871, a dispensation to assemble and work as a regular Commandery in Pottsville by the designation of "Constantine Commandery No. 41" was granted.

On June 13, 1871, the Grand Commandery of Penna. at its annual conclave at Harrisburg granted a Charter to Constantine Commandery No. 41, Knights Templar. On Oct. 31, 1871, the Commandery was constituted. The Grand Commandery was opened at the Asylum of Constantine Commandery in the Bright building with the following officers at their posts: R. E. Sir Chas. M. Howell, Grand Commander; E. Sir Abraham Miller, (C), Deputy Grand Commander; E. Sir S. Grant Weidman, Grand Generalissimo; E. Sir Andrew J. Kauffman, Grand Captain General; E. Sir James M. Porter, Grand Prelate; E. Sir M. J. M. Westhaeffer, Grand Treasurer; E. Sir Chas. H. Kingston, Grand Recorder; E. Sir B Frank Brenneman, Grand Senior Warden; E. Sir Edw. Welchans, Grand Junior Warden; E. Sir H. C. L. Crecelius, Grand Standard Bearer; E. Sir Rev. Daniel Washburn, Grand Sword Bearer; E. Sir Thos. E. Geddes, Grand Warden and E. Sir Edw. Mason, Grand Marshall.

The Grand Officers then constituted and consecrated the Commandery and the following officers were installed: Sir Walter S. Sheafer, Eminent Commander; Sir Jacob F. Emhardt, Generalissimo; Sir David H. Seibert, Captain General; Sir Chas. H. Woltjen, Recorder; Sir Henry B. Davis, Treasurer; Sir Chas. H. Dengler, Prelate; Sir Wm. H. Robinson, Senior Warden; Sir Robert A. Reed, Junior Warden; Sir Wm. Beck, Standard Bearer; Sir Roland Whitfield, Sword Bearer; Sir Jas. G. Lowrey, Warden; Sir John Green, Guard; Sir Louis H. Koch, Guard; Sir John S. Schweers, Guard; Sir Geo. M. Smith, Sentinel. After the Grand Commandery had closed, Constantine Commandery No. 41, was opened. The Order of the Red Cross was conferred by E. Sir Edward Masson, Grand Marshal and the Order of the Temple by R. E. Sir Chas. M. Howell, Grand Commander upon Andrew B. Cochran.

The Charter members of the Commandery were: Wm. H. Bines, Rev. Levi B. Beckley, Wm. Beck, Jas. H. Beck, Frank Carter, Chas. H. Dengler, John Dawson, Henry B. Davis, Jacob F. Emhardt, John Green, Peter Helms, Jas. K. Helms, Wm. H. Hopkins, Louis H. Koch, Jas. G. Lowrey, Dr. Wm. H. Robinson, Robert A. Reed, Thos. A. Reilly, David H. Seibert, Hon. Henry Souther, Henry J. Saylor, Dr. Obediah L. Saylor, Walter S. Sheafer, Alex S. Sillyman, Henry C. Voute, Chas. Henry Woltjen, Thos Wren, Roland Whitfield, Aquilla J. Womelsdorf.

The Past Commanders have been: W. S. Sheafer, J. F. Emhardt, D. H. Seibert, C. H. Woltjen, J. G. Lowrey, A. K. Whitner, C. H. Dengler, Wm. Beck, F. D. Sterner, Levi Huber, Samuel Hower, J. J. Cake, S. A. Phillips, H. N. Coxe, C. H. Reist, W. D. Pollard, Edwin Robinson, S. A. Thurlow, C. F. Conrad, Albert Robinson, W. W. Potts, C. F. Derr, P. K. Filbert, C. A. Seidel, Harvey Scott, H. S. Albright, C. Geo. Miller, Jas. R. Henderson, Wm. S. Thomas, John Maguire, George C. Diefenderfer, Harry O. Haag, W. C. Kepner, Wm. P. Jones, Jos. E. Morris, A. A. Seibert, A. J. Derr, Wm. S. Pugh, Morris H. Moyer, J. S. Zulick, Jas. E. Morris, T. C. Fegley, F. C. Yingst, J. Rondell Edwards, Wm. H. Brown, Jas. N. Hunter, Geo. H. Steidel, Wm. F. Weber, W. B. Straub, G. A. Muehlhof, J. F. Ulmer, C. H. Leaman, E. S. Filbert, H. E. Greager, W. E. Levan, M. D. Walborn, Wm. L. McLaren, W. K. Singer, W. C. Kenney, H. C. Steidle, L. P. Brenneman, T. Tennyson Miller.

The Elective Officers: Commander, Sir Oliver R. Simmers; Sir G. Edgar Kline, Generalissimo; Lester K. Stout, Captain General; Treasurer, E. Sir Harry C. Steidle; Recorder, E. Sir Willard K. Singer.

Trustees—E. Sir Wm. S. Pugh, Sir Jos. F. Seiders and E. Sir Harry E. Greager.

Ivanhoe Commandery

Ivanhoe Commandery No. 31, of Mahanoy City, was constituted on March 31st, 1868, with the following charter members: Henry Huhn, Geo. F. Wiggan, Preston Robinson, Geo. L. Boyd, John Ralston, E. J. Fry, G. W. Saylor, Wm. Brooks, Wm. S. Allebach, M. P. Fowler, H. A. Weldy, Frank McGovern, J. R. Gardner, D. H. Wilcox, Philip Conrad, Jacob L. Bricker, Elias K. Weber, Thos. Wren, Frank Carter. The Commandery was transferred from Tamaqua to Mahanoy City in June, 1893.

The officers are as follows: E. Sir Geo. H. Lovell, C.; Wm. O. Tempest, G.; Wilburt E. Oliver, CG.; Geo. G. Lewis, Treas.; L. Olin H. Phillips, Rec.

P. Cs.—Joshua D. Jones, Thos. L. Thomas, John W. Philips, Chas. M. Plank, Harry J. Krebs, James L. Madenfort, Milton E. Crawshaw, Henry K. Christ, Alexander Kinkaid, Robert E. Wagner, George E. Heidenreich, Harry A. Oday, Frederick R. Wagner, John W. Price, David J. Lovering, Geo. G. Lewis, Jenkin Prosser, Calvin R. Myers, Robert J. Lutz, Wm. E. Comley, Leon M. Brobst, L. Olin H. Phillips, Jas. G. Blankenhorn, Jas. Buchanan, Clyde C. Fox, Evan W. Owens, John D. Giffin.

Trustees—Geo. E. Heidenreich, Frederick R. Wagner, Calvin R. Myers.

Ashland Commandery

Prince of Peace Commandery No. 39, is located at Ashland. The officers are as follows: E. Sir Henry R. Waldner, C.; Wm. C. Shoemaker, G.; Earl G. Mason, CG.; Geo. F. Rentz, Treas.; Jas. Magrady, Rec., Locust Gap.

P. Cs.—Frank L. Buck, Jas. Magrady, Frederick W. Magrady, Harry J. Buck, J. Louis Hoffman, Thos A. Bevan, Walter G. Treibly, Jas. W. Thompson, Clarence Elmer John, Wm. R. Trautman, Thos. R. Eltringham, A. Raymond Laubenstein, Jos. Oakes, Harry W. Laubenstein, John H. Dinklocker, Geo F. Rentz, Jos. Mervine, Thos. J Lewis, Herbert J. Heffner, Chas. L. Neiman, Thos. B. Bracey, Earl D. Straub, Howard A. Zimmerman, Ulysses A. Klees, Harry L. Natschke.

Trustees—John H. Dinklocker, Thos. A. Bevan, Jos. Mervine.

Rajah Temple

Rajah Temple, of the Ancient Arabic Order of the Mystic Shrine, at Reading, which has been in existence for more than two-score years, includes in its membership many residents of Schuylkill Co., who are prominent in Masonry.

Along about sixty years ago, the first organization of the Shrine Nobles was founded by a theatrical representative, and sprang into existence in New York state. It is required, as eligibility to membership, that the candidate must be either a Knight Templar or a 32nd Degree Mason.

Each state's Temples are governed by the Imperial Council of North America. The first Shrine established in Pennsylvania, was Lulu Temple No. 1, of Philadelphia Then Pittsburgh instituted Shrine No. 2. Rajah Temple, of Reading. is the fourth to have sprung into existence in the state. Schuylkill County has a membership of about 1,500 Shriners.

At Pottsville and towns contiguous to the Schuylkill County seat, viz.: Minersville, Schuylkill Haven, St. Clair, Port Carbon, Orwigsburg, Tremont and other points in the lower and western part of the county, there are about 600 members of Rajah Temple.

City Treasuer C. P. Hoffman, for long years a Mason, who was largely responsible for the naming of Schuylkill County special Shrine representatives, having himself been the first official of the kind appointed, is still functioning in the performance of the duties of that office. In addition to the Pottsville appointee, the following are also filling similar berths:

John E. Stivetts, of Ashland; the Rev. R. S. Edris, of Auburn; Maurice Walborn, of Cressona; Raymond H. Hock, of Frackville; F. R. Wagner, of Mahanoy City; Wm. J. Felsburg, of Minersville; Dr. P. C. Boord, New Phila.; Harry G. Fegley, of Orwigsburg; Capt. Schwalm, of Pinegrove; L. C. Wingert, Port Carbon; George A. Robinhold, of Port Clinton; K. L. Alexander, of Sch. Haven.

Leon B. Miller, of Shenandoah; Dr. Joseph Morris, of St. Clair; Gus I. Knies, of Tamaqua; Dr. T. C. Fegley, of Tremont; P. M. Klinger, of Tower City; Gurney E. Smith, of Valley View.

Wm. M. D. Miller, of Allentown, is the present Illustrious Potentate, of Rajah Temple. He is the third official to have held that high office, since the death of the late Potentate George F. Eisenbrown. After his death John R. Seasholtz and the Rev. Jas. R. Brown, of Reading served.

Under all of these Potentates, C. P. Hoffman, of Pottsville, was special representative. The first Potentate of Rajah Temple was A. L. Reichenbach, of Allentown, under whom Mr. Hoffman received his initial appointment.

Mr. Eisenbrown served, without interruption, from the date of his original appointment until his death, having had a tenure of more

than twenty years. It was the longest regime of any Potenate in Shrine history.

His visitations, wherever he went in the state, were spectacular because he traveled about in a specially caparisoned built-up automobile. It was covered all over with pure gold leaf. This was worked into many attractive decorative designs embracing all Arabic scenes most exquisitely and artistically hand-painted. This car was valued at $15,000. It was presented, by the members of Rajah Shrine, to Potentate Eisenbrown toward the close of his long regime. After his death, it reverted to the Shrine and became the Rajah official car.

Under Potentate Eisenbrown Pottsville was chosen as the site for several initiatory ceremonials, when classes having a maximum numerical strength of 200 members, were inducted "over the hot sands." The first gathering for this purpose was at the old Academy of Music, in 1910.

It was in 1914 that there was another ceremonial when a class of more than 150 novitiates were received at the Armory, on N. Centre St. About five years later there was another class numbering close to 200 initiated, with elaborate ceremonies, in Moose Hall.

It was about 1921 that the first of the pilgrimages from Pottsville and the Schuylkill region to the Temple at Reading, was inaugurated and have been continued ever since. During the period that Potentate Eisenbrown held his high office, the pilgrimages, to the Shrine were headed by Pottsville's Third Brigade Band.



Boy Scouts Active Here Since 1912

(From "Pottsville Republican"-"Morning Paper," August 2-8, 1934)

(By ARTHUR S. FOLLETT)

For close to twenty-five years the Boy Scout movement has played an important part in the life of the boys of the City of Pottsville between the ages of twelve and eighteen years. Both the boys and men affiliated with the movement have gained much by following the aims of the organization laid down in the manuals. Many of the adult leaders today have risen to their present position by coming up through the ranks, carrying with them the ideals of Scouting which they gained in the course of passing their various tests.

Pottsville has always been represented with at least one troop registered at National Headquarters in New York City. At various times as high as thirteen troops have been in active service at one period in the city. Today, thirteen units are registered as active troops, involving 286 boys exclusive of Scout leaders. Twenty Cub Scouts, boys under twelve, and twelve Sea Scouts are included in this number.

The first Scout Council in Pottsville was organized in 1925, which brought the area up to a first class standing in Scouting. Up to this time the various troop committees had taken the responsibility in handling the activities. Lorenz Miller was the first Chief Scout Executive with John Swalm being Scout Commissioner. The present local council consists of Thos. Golden, Pres.; Paul Fisher, Vice Pres.; with John Dreher, Secy.-Treas. Carlton S. Simonds is the Scout Commissioner.

Pottsville is under the jurisdiction of the Schuylkill County Council, which has its headquarters in the Mortimer Building in Pottsville. The officers of the county council are: E. H. Suender, Frackville, Pres., Thos. Golden, Pottsville, Vice Pres.; Chas. D. Rubert, Lansford, Vice Pres.; John M. Swalm, Pottsville, Commissioner; H. D. Felix, Schuylkill Haven, Treas.; Wm. H. Watson, Sch. Haven, is the Scout Executive, supervising the work throughout the county; David Hopkins, Minersville, is the clerk of the Council office.

Seventy-eight troops are registered in the Schuylkill County Council which includes eleven Cub packs and four Sea Scout Ships. This takes in a total of 1,650 Scouts in the County with 279 boys being in the Cub Packs and 54 taking up Sea Scouting. This does not include the numerous Scoutmasters and Assistants as well as the Troop Committeemen.

Original Troop In 1912

The original troop in Pottsville was organized about 1912 by Major Lynn B. Adams, of the State Constabulary, then a Captain of Troop C. This was registered as Troop 1, with Troop 2, started by Chas. Potts shortly afterwards, having its headquarters at the Pottsville Mission. Membership in Troop 2 continued rapidly until 67 boys were on the roster when it moved to the Y. M. C. A., under the leadership of W. P. Smith, Boys' Secretary. Mr. Smith was highly interested in the growth of the movement, having one of the original Manuals from England, home of Boy Scouts, in his

possession. Buck Run at this time formed a troop which for many years was the only one in that district.

In 1914, Conrad Oxenford became interested in the work, taking over the Scoutmastership of Troop 2. The "Y" was the meeting place of the boys until 1916, when an increased membership made it necessary to look for larger quarters, with the Armory on North Centre St. being obtained. More than one hundred registered Scouts were in the troop at the time with George A. Young and Lorenz Miller as the Assistant Scoutmasters. Prof. B. S. Simonds, C. A. Wade and B. A. Rifkin were members of the troop committee. Through their efforts, camps were held at Jonestown, Lebanon County, in the summers of 1915 and 1916, the latter being named Camp Wasikin, from a combination of their names. The 1916 camp had 42 boys present for the two weeks stay.

One of the big features of Troop 2's activities was the Second Annual meeting and luncheon held in the Trinity Episcopal Parish House on March 2, 1917. A wonderful turnout of members of the troop and parents and friends interested in Scouting were on hand to witness the demonstrations of the work and hear the reports and speeches of the various speakers.

The roster of the troop was as follows: C. F. Oxenford, Scoutmaster; Geo. A. Young and Lorenz Miller, Assistant Scoutmasters; Patrol Leaders—Geo. W. Knowles, Harry Greenawald, Clarence Martz, Lee Hummel, Roy Sallada, Arthur S. Follett and Theo. Hoke. Assistant Patrol Leaders — Charles Bowers, Frank Meyers, Clarence Johnson, Wm. Campbell, Allen Smith, Edw. Seader, Earl Taylor; Geo. Knowles, Drillmaster; and Harry Greenawald, Scribe.

The Scouts were as follows: Harry Bean, Harold Butts, Walter Bell, Albert Blanche, Clarence Beyerle, Wm. Bertsch, David Bachman, Edwin Clouser, Jonathan Clouser, Bruce Cooper, Malcolm Donkin, Geo. Daubert, Daniel Donne, Hugh Dolan Jr., Edwin Davler, Nelson Eckert, Harrington Eckert, Norman Frizzle, Allen Fassold, Roy Gibbs, John Gillars, Frank Henry, Russel Holshue, Wilbur James, Richard Jones, Walter Kline, David Kissawetter, Russel Kepner, Karl Keeney, James Knoll, Leo Koehler, Allen Lawrence, Theo. Lowthert, Lloyd Martz, Walton Martz, Harry Painter, Walter Peiffer, Jas. Ross, Francis Rosenberger, Wm. Rosenberger, Carlton Simonds, Robert Simonds, Phillip Saunders, Theo. Saylor, Charles Smith, John Seltzer, Harry Seigfried, Donald Schoeneman, Norman Schultz, Philip Thomas, Robert Taylor, Kermit Vonder Heiden, Clarence Wright, Earl Wilson, Robert Wilson, Geo. Webb, Thos. Webb, John Weiderhold, Vincent Wassell, Wm. Yoder, Benj. Zeiler.

Honorary members: F. B. Bannan and Colonel Daniel Nagle.

Three Units Were Formed

While praising Scoutmaster Oxenford for his remarkable ability in welding together such a remarkable group of boys, in furthering the movement, the National Headquarters demanded the splitting of Troop 2 into three separate units in 1916. Scoutmaster Oxenford retained the Troop 2 charter, with George A. Young, as his assistant. Troop 3, with Lorenz Miller as Scoutmaster and Roy Sallada as assistant and Troop 4, with B. A. Rifkin as Scoutmaster and Clarence Martz, assistant, were created as a result of the division. The original Troop 2 had a registration of 116 boys prior to the breaking up into three groups.

With the World War breaking into the picture, the Boy Scouts of Pottsville came into their own as a means of aiding the government in the various drives and patriotic parades. During this period, the local troops were made custodians of the colors of the various nations which the Pottsville Club furnished for the parades and patriotic movements in and around Pottsville. The distribution of pamphlets, assisting the Red Cross and selling of Liberty Bonds were also other major activities which saw the Scouts doing their share of the work. President Wilson deputized all the Scouts of the nation as special messengers of the government, with the result that much valuable work was done by the Scouts before the Armistice was signed.

In the early part of 1918, several shifts in the leadership of the Scouts occurred. Scoutmaster Oxenford dropped out of the picture shortly before leaving Pottsville for New York City. A subsequent drop of membership in the three troops resulted in formation of two troops with Lorenz Miller heading Troop 1 and B. M. Rifkin assuming leadership of Troop 2, which was sponsored by the Rotary Club.

For meritorious work in connection with selling Liberty Bonds, twelve of Pottsville's Scouts and Scout Leaders were awarded medals by the government. They were given to the following on April 24, 1918: Scoutmaster Lorenz Miller, Scoutmaster B. M. Rifkin, Assistant Scoutmaster Geo. A. Young and Scouts Roy Gibbs, Jonathan Clouser, Clarence Johnson, Harry Bean, Clarence Martz, Francis Moll, Lee Haussmann, Daniel Donne, and Benj. Gable.

First Annual County Meet

Activities in the summer of 1918 reached their peak when the First Annual Schuylkill County Meet of the Boy Scouts was held in Pottsville on the Milliken Grounds, Greenwood Hill, with a turnout of over 450 boys on hand, from the different towns of the county.

The committees consisted of Troop 1, Pottsville, C. A. Wade, Pres.; C. P. Hoffman, F. W. Bausum, with L. W. Miller, Scoutmaster.

Troop 2—Judge MacHenry Wilhelm, Pres.; W. J. Sheldon, representing the Rotary Club, Geo. R. Moll, with B. M. Rifkin as Scoutmaster.

General Troop Committee—B. S. Simonds, C. A. Wade and O. L. Underwood.

Committee for Patriotic League—Judge Wilhelm, Daniel Duffy and C. P. Hoffman.

Following the let-down of interest at the close of the World War, three troops were chartered in Pottsville, with small rosters. Troop 1, at the "Y", had G. Raymond Derby as Scoutmaster. Troop 3 was under the leadership of Lorenz Miller, while Clarence Martz took over the reins of Troop 4, following the removal of B. M. Rifkin to another city. During 1917 and 1918, in the absence of Lorenz Miller in the service several of his older Scouts attempted to carry on but were forced to relinquish their equipment and records to the "Y" due to the rapid falling off of membership.

Interest in scouting throughout the county was not lagging, however, with the Second Annual Schuylkill County Boy Scout Meet being held at Mahanoy City in 1919, with many of the Pottsville Boy Scouts taking part and bringing home many of the prizes. Shenandoah, Schuylkill Haven, Port Carbon and Tamaqua were also among the participants at the meet.

"Y" Troop Reorganizes In 1920

The reorganization of Troop 1 at the "Y" was effected in January of 1920, with many of the older Scouts returning to the ranks once more. The first meeting night saw the completion of the re-organization from the picking of the troop committee down to the final patrol.

The complete roster of the troop:

Troop Committee—Robert Royal, Chairman; Louis F. Ulmer and Geo. H. Kaercher.

Scoutmaster, R. Raymond Derby; Assistant Scoutmasters, Russel B. Stellwagon and Harry Fisher; Troop President and Senior Patrol Leader, Arthur S. Follett; Troop Secretary and Scribe, Gerald Rettig; Patrol Eagle, colors, green and black—Arthur S. Follett, Patrol Leader; Chas. Daubert, Wm. Unger, Allen Rabenau, Harry Beck, Karl Manwiller; Beaver Patrol, colors, blue and yellow—Francis R. Moll, Patrol Leader; Henry Wonders, Geo. Eckenrode, Thos. Hasler, Harry Schoenfelder.

Bob White Patrol, colors, khaki and white—Gerald Rettig, Patrol Leader; Norman Schultz, Arthur Brown, Chas. Hasler, Kenneth Falls, Russell Sinton.

Raccoon Patrol, colors, black and brown—Roy Gibbs, Patrol Leader; Cyril Melhorn, Robert Troutman, Leon Weiner, John P. Trough, Alfred Thornberg.

Otter Patrol, colors, brown and white—Wm. Bertsch, Patrol Leader, Kenneth Reppert, Paul Davis, Henry Betz, Allen Nuss, John Shaw, Karl Enzian.

Bear Patrol, colors, brown and red—August Portland, Patrol Leader; Morris Zimmerman, Earl Holstein, Stephen Coleman, John Hall, Warren Kinzey, Frank Brennan.

Pelican Patrol, colors, violet and gray—Kermit Vonder Heiden, Patrol Leader; Donald Schoeneman, Robert Dolan, Francis Dugan, Jas. Montgomery.

No time was lost by the boys in striving for the various badges, with the following being named Tenderfoot Scouts within three weeks of the re-organization of the troop: Allen Nuss, John Shaw, Harry Schoenfelder, Wm. Unger, Warren Kinzey, Robert Dolan, Wm. Bertsch, Paul Davis, Morris Zimmerman, August Portland, John Hall, Earl Holstein, Robert Halberstadt, Kenneth Falls, Phillip Saunders, Francis Dugan, Karl Enzian, T. Carson Hanna, Jr., Russell Sinton, Richard Schoen and Henry Wonders.

County Rally at Pinegrove

During 1920 Scouting activities were somewhat curtailed in Pottsville, with most of the interest being centered directly within the troops. The third Annual Schuylkill County Rally was held at Pinegrove, with over three hundred Scouts and leaders present. Among the number were several troops of Girl Scouts, with Sch. Haven being represented by 20 girls under the leadership of Lieutenants Reed and Rhinehart. The meeting took place on the picnic grounds of Pinegrove, with E. C. Heininger, Geo. W. Dubbs, Wm. Fox and Drs. Walters and Kimmel being the committee in charge.

In September, 1920, one of the successful undertakings of the Pottsville troops was the completion of an exhibit in the Y. M. C. A., for use during Forest Fire Protection Week. It proved to be quite educational and gained much favorable comment from the large crowds which viewed it. The following Scouts worked on it during the course of construction: Rabenau, Nuss, Portland, Reppert, Rigg, Schoen, Saunders, Schoeneman, Shaw, Sinton, Weiner, Rich, Zimmerman, Umberger, Alsten, Schoen-

felder, Archbald, Bertsch, Ely, Falls, Halberstadt, Hall, McCabe, Hanna and Assistant Scoutmaster Russell Stellwagon.

The 1921 Rally was held at Port Carbon, with one of the largest attendances present at such an occasion. Several of the Pottsville troops were entered in the various events which featured the program, bringing home many of the valuable prizes. Close to five hundred scouts and leaders attended.

The troops represented at the Rally aside from Pottsville, were: St. Clair, Brockton, Schuylkill Haven, Mahanoy City, Pinegrove, Frackville, Girardville, Tamaqua and Port Carbon. Schuylkill Haven sent two troops of Girl Scouts, with Shenandoah and Mahanoy City being present with one apiece

Interest in the Scouts appeared to run in cycles, as during 1922 and 1923 not much was heard about the activities in Pottsville. One or two troops continued to hold registration in National Headquarters, but it was not until 1924 when a new troop sponsored by the Lions Club made its appearance, that a revival of Scouting appeared on the horizon.

Previous to the organization of this troop, St. Patrick's Church endeavored to create a troop but while the organization was effected, no charter or registration papers were ever put through the New York offices to make it official. This group of boys was the nucleus of the Lions Troop, No. 3, in Pottsville.

The troop committee was headed by Pierce Mortimer, with Clinton Sheafer, treasurer. Lee Hummel was also a committeeman who worked hard to make the new outfit a success. Larry Miller held the Scoutmastership with Geo. Young as his Assistant. Robert Michel became an Assistant Scoutmaster of the troop upon becoming eighteen years of age, after having been active in the movement continuously for six years. The Grammar School building was used as a meeting place for a while but later the Episcopal Church basement was obtained, being in use up to the present time.

Permanent Scout Council

A real milestone was passed in Scouting in Pottsville in 1925 when the first permanent Scout Council for the city was organized on September 24th. T. R. Daddow held the presidency of the Council for a year, with U. H. Nuss, Carl Wagner and John Stanton, vice presidents Harry Brink was elected secretary with Clinton Sheafer as treasurer. Lorenz Miller, active for a number of years as Scoutmaster, was placed in the office of Chief Executive. John Swalm became Scout Commissioner.

Several men who had been interested in the juvenile problem in Pottsville became members of the Scout Council before 1925 closed, giving the city a group of men endeavoring to place Scouting on a high plane in the community. The new members were A. R. Shoenberger, Rev. R. A. Bausch, Dr. A. J. Knauss, Walter Bollinger, District Forester A. Smith, B. S. Simonds, and W. J. Biever.

Ten active troops came under the jurisdiction of the Pottsville Council in 1925; being as follows: Troop 1, Y. M. C. A., Scoutmaster, A. J. Zimmerman; Troop 2, Buck Run, Scoutmaster, J. Neale; Troop 3, Lions Club, Scoutmaster, Lorenz Miller; Troop 4, First Presbyterian Church, Scoutmaster, John Swalm; Troop 5, 2nd Presbyterian Church, Scoutmaster, Finn; Troop 6, Kiwanis Club, Scoutmaster, Lee Hummel; Troop 7, Episcopal Church, Scoutmaster, H. Smith; Troop 8, Oheb Zedeck Congregation, Scout-

master, Rabbi Beck; Troops 9 and 10, organized but without sponsors

Boy Scout Week, celebrating the founding of the movement, proved to be an ideal break for the newly organized Pottsville Council. The entire week of Feb. 7th to 13th, was set aside for Scouting activities in every phase of the movement, with all of the Pottsville troops showing wonderful co-operation to make the week a success.

In 1926 numerous changes in the roster of the various troops brought about more interest to show the local Scouts reaching a new high in activities. Twelve Troops were registered at the local Council's office. with a decided increase in membership in the various units.

1926 Roster of Troops

The roster of the troops in 1926 was as follows:

Troop 1, Y. M. C. A., Scoutmaster. A. J. Zimmerman.

Troop 2, Buck Run, Scoutmaster, Joseph Duffy; James B. Neale, patron.

Troop 3, Lions Club, Scoutmasters, Lorenz Miller and George Young; Assistant Scoutmasters, Samuel Unger and Leland Reid; Troop Committee, H. W. Brink, C. W. Sheafer and John Duffy.

Troop 4, 1st Presbyterian Church, Scoutmaster, John Swalm; Assistant Scoutmasters, Franklin Edwards and Guy H. Everly; Troop Committee, H. C. Frick, Herbert P. Quinn and Wm. C. Green.

Troop 5, 2nd Presbyterian Church, Scoutmaster, Howard Finn; Assistant Scoutmasters, Ted Farquhar and Wm. Bell; Troop Committee, Robert Bailey and H. H. Horning.

Troop 6, Kiwanis Club, Scoutmaster, Lee Hummel; Assistant Scoutmaster, Wm. Unger; Troop Committee, Rev. R. A. Bausch and Dr. A. J. Knauss.

Troop 7, Trinity Episcopal Church, Scoutmaster, H. A. Smith; Assistant Scoutmaster, Stauffer; Troop Committee, H. W. Brink, John Sparks and A. J. Benson.

Troop 8, Oheb Zedeck Congregation, Scoutmaster, Rabbi Herman Beck; Assistant Scoutmaster, Bernard Frumkin; Troop Committee, Louis Holstein, Harry Diamond and Abe Weiner.

Troop 9, Methodist Church, Scoutmaster, Thomas Hasler; Assistant Scoutmaster, William Dove; Troop Committee, Alvin Shoenberger, G. T. Burd and T. R. Daddow.

Troop 10, Evangelical Church, Scoutmaster, Bert Spehrley; Troop Committee, Stanley Super.

Troop 11, Rotary Club, Scoutmaster, Guy Everly; Troop Committee, John Stanton.

Troop 12, Trinity Lutheran Church, Scoutmaster, Harry Ammon; Assistant Scoutmaster, Fred Houser and Wm. Kendricks; Troop Committee, Rev. E. W. Weber, Roy E. Brownmiller, Robert Bader, Harry Z. Little and Arthur S. Follett.

The Pottsville Boy Scouts were enjoying the benefit of Scout Camps in the summer although they did not have one of their own up to this time. During 1924 and '25, many of the local boys were able to attend the big camp at Indian Dale, Berks County Council, located near Womelsdorf, where they increased their knowledge of Scout lore under competent directors. Starting in 1926, Camp Strauss, in Lebanon County drew many of the local boys throughout its summer sessions. The ideal location and competent directors made it one of the model camps of Eastern Pennsylvania at this time. For five years. or up until 1931, Pottsvilie Council designated this camp as the official summer rendezvous for their Scouts.

Although there were ten troops active during the period between 1926 and 1930, most of the work was within the various troops with very little of their outside interest bringing Scouting before the public. The local troops still continued to send their boys to Camp Strause in Lebanon County, with increased numbers enjoying the outdoor vacations each year.

In 1928, the first effort was made to create a Schuylkill County Scout Council. Pottsville's Council met with four other nearby councils in the "Y" auditorium on Wednesday evening, Dec. 5th, with the nucleus of the present council resulting before the evening's meeting was adjourned. The election of officers at the meeting resulted in the placing of E. H. Suender, Frackville, in the president's chair, with Carl Wilson, of Sch. Haven, Senior Vice Pres.; Lee Hummel, Pottsville, Secy. protem, and C. W. Sheafer, Pottsville, Treas.

Staged Scout Jamboree

One of the biggest Scouting affairs of the county took place on Oct. 26, 1929, when 22 troops thruout the region staged a Scout Jamboree at the Fair Grounds. Ashland Troop 2, scored 25 points out of a possible 80 in the contests and exhibitions. winning first prize. Pottsville's troops, 6 and 3, sponsored by the Lions Club, showed their prowess by taking second and third places in the final count.

Plans for the furthering of the proposed Schuylkill County Scout Area Council were made at a meeting at the office of E. H. Suender, on April 29, 1930. At a second meeting held on Monday evening, May 19th, a drive for $2,700 to be used for the purpose of establishing the Council, was opened. A successful termination of the drive resulted in the proper financing of the project which was to mean a great boost for Scouting in Schuylkill County.

Twelve Troops were registered with the Pottsville Council in the summer of 1930, when Scouting once more gained in interest among the boys of the community. Oddly enough the Y. M. C. A. still held first place in the troop number with Troop 1 still being registered as active, having been in existence for a period of more than ten years.

The full list of troops was as follows: Troop 1, Y. M. C. A., Scoutmaster A. J. Zimmerman; Troop Committee, J. S. Herbein, W. Gay Harper and Harry A. Bean.

Troop 2, Lions Club, Scoutmaster Lorenz Miller; Troop Committee, E. S. Filbert, W. Mayberry and John Swalm.

Troop 4, H. C. Frick Bible Class, First Presbyterian Church, Scoutmaster Carlton Simonds; Troop Committee, H. M. Smyth, Milton Moore and Herbert T. Quinn.

Troop 6, Kiwanis Club, First Presbyterian Church, Scoutmaster Lee Hummel; Troop Committee. Harold L. Paul, John W. Conrad, D. L. Dolbin, and J. H. Woodland.

Troop 8, Oheb Zedeck Congregation, Scoutmaster A. Z. Kamenetzky; Troop Committee, Sam Friedman, Nat Tuckerman and Eugene E. Eichenbaum.

Troop 10, Y. M. C. A., Scoutmaster, Alvin Dress; Troop Committee, Bert Spehrley and Robert F. Ketner.

Troop 12, Trinity Lutheran Church, Scoutmaster, Harry Koenig, Troop Committee, Rev. E. W. Weber, Wm. Leininger and Drake G. Schreadley.

Troop 13, Robert Woodbury Post 67, American Legion, Scoutmaster George Heisler; Troop Committee. C. L. Marberger, George Barnhardt and George Knowles.

The officers of the Pottsville Scout Council at this time consisted of Fred Wagner as President; Clarence E. Kendricks, Vice Pres.; Wm. Kendricks, Secty.; Geo. Hill, Treas.; with Wm. S. Watson as Scout Executive.

Pottsville Host To Scout Leaders

The Pottsville Council was host to the Scout leaders of Schuylkill County on Wednesday evening, Feb 5, 1931, when a big gathering was on hand for the banquet which commemorated the founding of Scouting in Pottsville. Uzal H. Martz was toastmaster of the affair.

The feature of the evening was the cutting of a cake, borne into the hall by twelve uniformed Scouts with 21 candles blazing on top to signify the number of years which have passed since Scouting first made its appearance in the community. Prof. Simonds, as a member of the local council, was given the honor of cutting the cake. Among the speakers of the evening were: Scout Executive Watson, Clarence E. Kendricks and Milton Moore, of the Pottsville Council.

Regional Executive Officer from the Phila. District No. 3, Major Roy F. Seymour, was the main speaker of the evening. He climaxed the affair by handing to President Suender, of the Schuylkill County Scout Council, the charter for the organization, thus closing one of the most momentous chapters of Scouting in the county by its recognition in National circles as one of the outstanding areas in Eastern Pennsylvania.

First Public Court of Honor

The first public Court of Honor in the Pottsville District was held Nov. 5, 1930, in the First Presbyterian Church, with the awarding of eight Eagle Scout badges, the highest honor to be attained by a Scout. First Class Badges, Star and Life Scout emblems were also given out at this time. The members of the Schuylkill County Scout Council were on hand to honor the occasion as well as Scout Executive Watson.

Members of Troop 4 receiving Eagle Scout badges were: Jacob Ulmer, Robert Conrad, Lester P. Zimmerman, D. P. Goodall, Vance E Moyer, John Swalm, Jr., and Edward J. Kuss, with Richard R. Rees, a member of Troop 3, also winning the badge. Hon. Roy P. Hicks, a member of the Court of Honor, handed out the Eagle emblems, with Jas. J. Hampford and Dr. J. Stratton Carpenter giving out the Star and Life Badges respectively.

In the fall of 1930, Sea Scouting made its appearance in Pottsville with the formation of the Sea Scout Ship Joel T. Boone, named in honor of the former personal physician to the President of the United States, Joel T. Boone, and a former St. Clair native. Carlton M. Simonds, Scoutmaster of Troop 4 and Associate Scout Commissioner of Pottsville, became the Skipper of the Ship, which was sponsored by the Frick Men's Bible Class of the First Presbyterian Church, with the meeting place of the troop being in the basement of the church house.

Repaired Broken Toys

This year the Boy Scouts of Pottsville started their first annual drive for the collection of broken toys to be repaired and reconditioned to be given out at Christmas time to the poor and needy children of the community. The drive met with a spontaneous response on the part of the people of the town with the result that the Scouts were active for the greater part of November and December in repairing the toys to have them ready in time for distribution at Christmas.

The first of a series of educational pilgrimages to places of historical interest in Pennsylvania was made on February 20, when over 300 Boy Scouts of Schuylkill County visited Valley Forge. A full day was spent in traveling around the shrine of the American Revolution, in viewing the relics and various buildings on the grounds. Many Pottsville boys went in the group which was under the direct supervision of Scout Executive Wm. H Watson.

On March 23 and 24th, the "Womanless Wedding", a show held under the auspices of the Pottsville Scout Council, proved a great success on both nights which it played in the high school auditorium before capacity houses. The cast was made up of many of the local business men who contributed their time and ability to put over the show.

Troop 9, sponsored by the Methodist Church, of Pottsville, received its charter on March 16, with Albert C. Lott registered as Scoutmaster and Harry Bushar as his assistant. The troop committee consisted of Fred Wagner, Chairman; Rev. F. W. Gray, Edw. Messersmith and C. H. Heath.

Opened Camp Blue Mt.

The summer of 1931 saw another milestone passed in Scouting in Schuylkill County and Pottsville with the opening of Camp Blue Mountain, situated a short distance off the Long Run-Rehrersburg highway, in a beautiful spot high in the Blue Mountains, providing an ideal spot for the summer instruction and development of the Boy Scouts of the region. The Pottsville Area had a great deal to do with the development of the camp, due to its close proximity of the location. Plentiful accommodations were available for the boys, with a possibility of taking care of 112 at one time should the occasion arise.

The program of the camp called for six weeks during the summer of 1931 with this being carried out until '33. A change for closer uniting of camp life for better programs and instructions curtailed the sessions to four weks in 1934, with a much better camp resulting. An average of more than fifty boys have been in attendance weekly since the organization of the camp which is supervised by Scout Executive Watson, with a capable corps of assistants.

The Schuylkill County Fair in 1931 adopted a Boy Scout Day for its program during the week with very creditable results. Demonstrations of Scouting by various troops in the county resulted in the education of the visitors into the value of Scouting in the community. Billy Sunday, noted Evangelist who was at the Fair, honored the occasion, handing out Merit Badges to the more fortunate Scouts who had achieved these honors.

Pottsville was well represented in the Pilgrimage to Gettysburg during September of 1931, which saw more than 450 Schuylkill County Scouts taking in the trip. Scout Executive Watson had charge of the boys during the visit to the famous Civil War Battlefield.

The annual drive for funds to operate the Schuylkill County Council was opened on Oct. 10th. The amount to be raised was $3,000 which would carry all expenses for the coming year. Among the speakers were the late Congressman Brumm, of Minersville, and the late J. H. Zerbey, of Pottsville, both of whom had been vitally interested in Boy Scouts in the county.

President E. H. Suender, of the Schuylkill County Council, also gave a short address. Uzal H. Martz was acting chairman of the meeting. The drive closed about a week later with great success, thus insuring Scouting a renewed life for at least another year.

Colored Scouts Receive Charter

Interest in Scouting among the colored residents of the city resulted in Troop 11 receiving its charter on Oct. 20, 1931. The A. M. E Church, of Laurel St., Pottsville, sponsored the troop, the first colored unit in the county. Wm. Kendrick, Secretary of the Pottsville Council, greatly aided in the formation of the troop. The troop committee consisted of Rev. J. D. Brown, Chairman; Jas. B. Watson, Everett Andrews, Ellis Holden Samuel Huggins. R. C. White was Scoutmaster, with Wm. Harvey as his assistant.

Co-operation with the Citizen's Relief Committee for food was effected on Nov. 4, with the scoutmasters of the various troops and the Pottsville Council meet at the "Y". Scout Commissioner of Pottsvill eSimonds was elected chairman of the Scout Committee to assist the Citizens' Committee in this worthy cause.

Another pilgrimage, this time to the State Capitol at Harrisburg saw close to 700 Boy Scouts of Schuylkill County taking advantage of the trip. Branch Twp. School Band also were on the trip to give the occasion a real festive touch.

One of the biggest affairs in the history of Pottsville Scouting took place on Nov. 27, 1913, when the first annual rally of Scouts of the Schuylkill County Council was held in the Armory at Pottsville. Close to one thousand boys were on hand to witness the well rounded out program, with Sea Scout Skipper, Carlton Simonds, acting as Master of Ceremonies.

Moving pictures of camp life at Camp Blue Mountain opened the evening's program. Scout Executive Watson awarded various badges to many of the Scouts during a brief ceremony followed by a short address by President Suender, of Frackville. The real fun of the evening, four matches of boxing with some of the leading contenders of the county, and two wrestling bouts, gave the Scouts some real thrills. The feature boxing match was between two Scouts, Bobby Walsh and Young Ryan, of Pottsville.

Distribute Food For Red Cross

The results of the meeting to assist the Citizens' Committee on the matter of food relief was being carried on by the Scouts with fine results during December of 1931. The food was being distributed by the Red Cross after being collected by the Scouts. Troops 3, 10, 6, 8, 1, 4, 7, 9, 2, 5, and Cub Pack gathered 2,378 items during the month. C. H. Heath was aiding the Scouts in the collection of broken toys being repaired for needy children at Christmas time.

Sea Scouting was given a boost when a committee met at the home of Rev. Chappel on Dec. 15th to make plans for building a training ship at Camp Blue Mountain for 1932. The meeting resulted in approval of project to be started as soon as weather made it possible. A change in meeting place of the Joel T. Boone Ship was made, the new quarters to be the Tilt Silk Mill in preference to the First Presbyterian Church.

The Scout Training Troop held an interesting meeting at Camp Blue Mountain on Dec. 18th. The members of the troop met in Pottsville,

and then hiked to the camp, where the greater part of the day was spent in instruction. Use of the map by Carlton Simonds and use of compass and sextant by Wm. Krieg a Naval Academy graduate, were the principal items of the instructive period.

Holding of the second annual Schuylkill County Council Banquet was the opening gun of 1932 in Scouting, with one of the largest gatherings of Scout leaders ever brought together in the county present. The affair was held on Wednesday, Jan. 20th, at St. Paul's Church, Mahanoy City. The trooping of the colors by one Scout from practically every organization in Schuylkill County was the feature of the evening. The presentation of Eagle, Star and Life Badges was also made at this time. The speakers included Judge R. P. Hicks of the local Council and Chas. N. Miller, from National Headquarters in New York. Several Pottsville scout leaders were on the committee for the affair.

One of the outstanding awards for Scout service was given to E. H Suender, president of the County Council at the banquet, when he was the recipient of the Beaver Medal, the first given to a Schuylkill Countian.

Many of the Pottsville Scout leaders were present at the school of instruction held at Bucknell University, Lewisburg, on Feb. 5, 1932. The lessons included many of the most vital problems confronted by the scoutmasters in the dealing with the boys. Among those present were Chief Watson, Geo. A. Young, Robert Michel, Harry Detwiler Carlton Simonds, and Geo. Derbes.

Anniversary week programs thruout the county in February resulted in the Pottsville Council holding a great rally in the Methodist Church on Market St. on Feb. 7th. Troops, 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 12 attended the meeting. Fred Wagner, President of the Schuylkill County Council, was one of the speakers with T. K. Leinbach, of Reading Field Commissioner of Berks County, delivering the main address. Pt. Carbon, Sch. Haven and Mill Creek were also in attendance.

The Boy Scout Father and Son Banquet held at the Methodist Church on Feb. 8, saw about 300 boys and their fathers on hand. Roy Zaner, York, Pa., Scout Executive was the main speaker. Rev. F. M. Gray, pastor of the Church, was also among the speakers, as well as Fred Wagner. B. S. Simonds, former Pottsville Council member, was toastmaster for the evening. Carlton Simonds and Chief Watson made introductory speeches for the various speakers.

The first of a series of successful social nights by the Sea Scout Ship Joel T. Boone, was held at the home of Bob Smith, of Mahantongo St., on Feb. 13th, with a full Crew and numerous friends in attendance. A replica of a ships' gangplank and lights together with the bell of the Joel T. Boone lent a nautical air to the occasion. Among the honored guests were Chief Scout Executive Watson and wife. Skipper Carlton Simonds was well pleased with the fine response to the first social "cruise" of the ship.

Celebrated Boy Scout Day

On Feb. 14th, Scout Day was celebrated in Pottsville, with several of the Scouts from various troops acting as reporters for the day. This was the first attempt to have the boys handle newspaper work but their successful debut led to several more opportunities for them later on.

In connection with Scout Day in the city, Scouts Jacob Ulmer, Luther Weaklim and Joseph Barket

were able to learn the duties of judges when they took over the judicial duties at the County Court House for the day. They were successful in the election for the offices among the various Scouts of the city held previous to Scout Day.

Feb. 13, 1932, saw the Boy Scouts of Pottsville taking over the municipal government as well as running the Pottsville Evening Republican for the day. Keen interest was displayed in election for the various city offices, as well as positions on the newspaper staff, with much lobbying being done by prospective candidates.

Vance Moyer, Troop 7, Sea Scouts, was successful in gaining the mayoralty berth, being sworn in at 11 o'clock, with full control of the city's policies until noon in place of Mayor Dengler. George Blacker, of the Sea Scouts, was chief of police for the same period of time, while Bob Conrad kept the important city positions in the Sea Scouts when he held the Fire Chief's office for the day. Earl Wynkoop, Troop 6, was Desk Sergeant, with John Swalm, 7, and Robert Ernst, 12, being the police reporters.

On the newspaper staff, Ted Leininger, Troop 4, was Managing Editor; Lawrence Beers, 6, Court Reporter; Bob Smith, 7, Sports Editor, Joseph H. Zerbey, 3rd, County News Reporter; Robert Ernst, 12, Police Reporter, and Robert DeLong, Local News Reporter. All of the boys gave a good account of their ability, turning out some nice specimens of reportorial work.

On March 5th, local papers ran a special section to boost Camp Blue Mountain, summer home of Schuylkill County's Boy Scouts. Collaborating with the reporters were many members of the Schuylkill County and Pottsville Councils, with the result that the history of the camp and descriptions of its surroundings were pleasingly placed before the public.

Requested to be present at the Necho Allen on the evening of April 22nd, Chief Executive Watson became the guest of honor at a surprise party in expression of the gratitude of the Scout leaders of the area for his splendid work since coming to the county. Scout leaders throughout the district were present with Fred Wagner, of the Pottsville District as toastmaster. Rev. E. W Weber and A. R. Greising, of the Hazleton District, were the main speakers with Clarence Kendrick also being called upon.

"Hollywood Static," a play which saw many of the leading citizens of Pottsville in the cast of characters, was held at the Pottsville High School, on May 4, 5, 6, with huge success. The funds derived from the production were to meet the expenses of running the local Council and the various projects of the movement in the city. The old time vaudeville team of Walker Kinsey and Anna Wilhelm featured the program.

The banquet of the Scoutmasters and leaders held in the Trinity Lutheran Church on May 17, proved to be another successful undertaking, with a hearty response on the part of the adult members of the Schuylkill County Area. Clarence Kendrick was acting toastmaster for the occasion with Wm. Krieg, U. S. N., Pottsville, and Karl Watter, Tamaqua, delivering the main speeches of the evening. Harold Bensinger, Port Carbon; Rev. Shellhase, Frackville, and David Hopkins, Minersville, gave short addresses on the progress of Scouting in their respective districts.

On Sunday, May 8th, the Scouts of Pottsville attended the various churches in the city in the celebration of Mother's Day. Special programs featured the services throughout the day with the Scouts taking an active part.

The final week of June, starting on the 27th, saw the Scout leaders who were to conduct the annual Blue Mountain Camp, moving in The first week was devoted to the training and laying out of schedule so that everything would be in readiness for the boys when they arrived on July 5th. An able corps of assistants was on hand.

On July 5th, the local Scout movement lost one of its most ardent supporters when the sudden death of Robert J. Boyle took place in the Washington Seibly Hospital, Washington, D. C., following an emergency operation. Just reaching manhood, Bob was a spendid example of the Boy Scout movement's precepts for developing the youth of the nation through the dangerous age of twelve to eighteen years. He was the first Boy Scout in Schuylkill County to gain the coveted Eagle Scout Badge, the highest ranking honor in Scoutdom for boys in the ranks. His untimely death was keenly felt by all those with whom he came in contact during his Scout life.

To honor Connie Mack, dean of baseball managers, Schuylkill County's Scouts combined and traveled to Philadelphia on Monday, Aug. 22nd, where Chief Watson presented the veteran Athletics' leader with a plaque carved from anthracite with a clock set in. Several of the Athletic players were also recipients of various tokens of esteem from the Scouts. Pottsville's large delegation of boys showed the interest taken by the youngsters in the national pastime.

Wednesday, Sept. 7th, saw the Scouts once more active in the Annual Schuykill County Fair, combining with the American Legion of the county to put over one of the largest days witnessed at the Fair. Several of Pottsville's troops featured the gala affair with the demonstration of Scouting on the vaudeville platform.

Following a lecture at the Yorkville Hose Co. house by Fire Chief Smith, members of the various troops in Pottsville traveled out of the city limits with the equipment of the Yorkville and American Hose Companies where they attempted to display their knowledge of the art of fighting fires against some miniature houses built for the occasion. The boys proved adept in handling the various pieces of equipment, from the ringing of the fire plug to make hose connection to the putting away of the hose after extinguishing the flames.

At the celebration of the Washington Bi-Centennial on Oct. 16th, at Garfield Square, the Pottsville Boy Scouts aided in policing the square during the presentation of the pageant by the school children of the local district.

The first Bridge of Honor by the Scout Ship Joel T. Boone, was held at the Armory on Wednesday evening, Nov. 16th. The affair drew among others Commodore Israel, of the Harrisburg region, who brought members of the two Sea Scout ships of the State Capitol with him. Many county Scout leaders and their boys were on hand. The presentation of honors to the local crew was the high spot of the occasion.

The annual Father and Son Banquet in the Trinity Episcopal Church Parish House on Feb. 9th, 1933, was the first big event of the new year for Scouting in Pottsville. Over three hundred boys and leaders with the fathers were present

for the occasion, which saw thirteen troops and two cub packs present. The affair marked the 23rd year of Boy Scout activity in Pottsville. Among the speakers were Rev. F. W. Gray, Fred Wagner, Rev. H. W. Diller, Rev. E. W. Weber, Geo. A. Young, Clarence Kendrick, John Swalm and Jack Duffy. The high light of the evening was the placing of the J. H. Zerbey Silver Loving Cup in competition to be awarded to the most progressive troop at the 1934 Father and Son Banquet.

Edited "Republican"

Wednesday, March 29th, the Boy Scouts of Pottsville edited the "Pottsville Republican." All troops of the local district had a part in the placing of the paper on the street. Among the news writers for the day were the following: J. Francis Knebel, Troop 7; David Vernik, 13; Max Naundorf, 13; Charles Moyer, 12; Martin Malarkey, 12; Thomas Golden, president Pottsville Council; Norman Mortimer, Field Commissioner District 2; John Swalm, Pottsville Council Commissioner; Franklin Madar, 8; and George Weissinger, 7.

Parents' Night at the Trinity Lutheran Church on April 22nd, proved a big success with Troop 12 playing the host. Harry Koenig, Scoutmaster of the unit, and his boys gave several demonstrations of Scouting, with Judge Gangloff as the chief speaker of the evening.

The annual drive for the Schuylkill County Council funds for the year was off to a rousing start at a meeting in the "Y". Percy C. Madeira, president of the Madeira-Hill and Company pledged his support and that of the company in the campaign. $12,702 was the quota set by the meeting, with the final results netting just short of the figure.

Pottsville's Council combined with the Y. M. C. A. in a drive for $11,000 which opened with a meeting at the "Y" on May 4th. This was to carry the "Y" and the Scouts of Pottsville through the year of 1933. The closing of the drive a week after saw well over the figure raised by the various teams.

On May 11 another Schuylkill County Scout Rally was held in Pottsville with over 2000 boys being on hand. A parade up Centre St. to Charlton's Hall opened the evening's program which was held in the hall, closing with several boxing matches which were well received by the boys. Several speakers and awarding of medals featured the meeting.

At a special meeting held at Camp Blue Mountain, two more Schuylkill County Scout leaders were awarded the Beaver Medal for distinguished service. The award of a Scout key was made to another. Thos. J. Lewis, Frackville, and Clarence E. Kendrick, Pottsville, were recipients of the Beaver award, with F. E. Smith, of Pinegrove, being honored with the Scout Key.

The official opening of Camp Blue Mountain for the 1933 season was marked by a Campfire held the first week of July, with 27 patrols present. Special contests and exhibitions featured the meeting which proved a great success. On July 7th, Chief Executive Watson and his corps of 10 resident leaders moved into the permanent buildings on the camp site to get the rendezvous in readiness for the opening the following week. Registrations at this time indicated one of the biggest camps to date.

The re-organization of Troop 13, Oheb-Zedeck Congregation, was effected on May 12, when an investiture service was held by Executive Watson and President Golden. Wilfred Wachter, Troop 2, St. John's, had charge of the meeting with

Chief Watson handing the charter to Scoutmaster Jack Goldenberg. Jerome Solomon was assistant Scoutmaster, with the Troop Committee being composed of Rabbi Silk, Dr. Leon Miller, Harry Tappan, Sol Prince, Nat Tuckerman and E. C. Eichenbaum.

Wednesday, Sept. 6th, saw the Boy Scouts of Pottsville and Schuylkill being featured at the Fair once more.

Two more Beaver awards were made to local Scout leaders when John Swalm and H. D. Felix were recipients of the medals on Jan. 25, 1934. This makes a total of five countians who have been so honored by National Scout headquarters with E. H. Suender, F. J. Lewis, and Clarence Kendrick being the others who gained the coveted honor. Judson P. Freeman, of New York City, was on hand for the occasion to hand out the medals, with Chief Watson also being a speaker at the meeting.

The annual Schuylkill County Area Council Banquet was held on Jan. 26th, with Judson P. Freeman as the main speaker at the Trinity Episcopal Church. Mayor Lord of Pottsville; Thomas Golden, Chief Watson and President Suender also gave short addresses.

Annual Banquet

The Annual Father and Son Banquet of the Pottsville District was held in the Methodist Church on Feb. 9, with more than 300 in attendance. Chief White Horn, a full blooded Indian, was the speaker, giving a wonderful talk of Indian lore which the boys greatly enjoyed. Uzal H. Martz was also at the speakers' table, with Howard Hobbs toastmaster for the evening. The awarding of the J. H. Zerbey silver loving cup to Troop 11, A. M. E. Church, was the high spot of the occasion. Organized a little more than a year, the colored Boy Scouts showed the most remarkable progress of any troop in the city. Eagle Scout badges were also awarded to Bob Michel, Troop 3, and Al Lott, Troop 9, for attaining the required number of merit badges.

Plans for the annual Camp Blue Mountain were laid at a meeting held May 5, while the date for the annual pilgrimage of the Schuylkill County Scouts was also brought up. The latter trip was to be made to Wilmington, Del., this year.

$2,500 was set for the quota of the annual drive for the Pottsville Council at a meeting held in the Trinity Lutheran Church on May 6th. Uzal H. Martz was chairman of the drive, Rev. E. W. Weber and Thos. Golden were speakers at the meeting. The final response saw the drive falling short by a few hundred dollars of the figures set.

On July 7, Camp Blue Mountain opened once more as the summer home of the local boys. The chief and his group of assistants had the camp ready for the boys on July 13, after having spent a week in cleaning up and laying out their schedules. Four weeks were planned for this season, cutting down two weeks from the old schedule. 75 boys were registered for the first two weeks with more than this number under the canvas the last fortnight.

Sea Scouting in Pottsville

Sea Scouting was first conceived by Arthur A. Carey, of Waltham, Mass., who placed the first Sea Scout Ship, the "Pioneer" in commission in the early part of 1911, with a set schedule of cruises over a period of three months. The ship was a former "Gloucester" fisherman, which was completely overhauled. Philadelphia and Washington, D. C., entered the activity late in the summer of the same year.

In 1917, a regular Sea Scout Department was established by the National Council of the Boy Scouts of America. Jas. A. Wilder, of Honolulu, was invested as Chief Sea Scout and the first Director of Sea Scouting. Following his return to his home in Honolulu, the wheel was taken by Commodore W. E. Longfellow. Thos. J. Kane is the present director.

Early in the Fall of 1930 the idea of a Sea Scout Ship in Pottsville was conceived by Carlton M. Simonds, Scoutmaster of Troop 4. The Sea Scout Ship Joel T. Boone became a reality under his guidance The sponsorship of the organization was taken over by the Frick Men's Bible Class of the First Presbyterian Church, with meetings being held in the Scout room in the basement of the Church House.

The Crew consisted of Skipper Simonds, Coxswains Jack Swalm and Vance Moyer, Lester Zimmerman, Bob Conrad, Bill Jones, Luke Weaklim. Ed. Kuss, Bob Smith, Jake Ulmer, Scoop Weissinger and Alex Kirkland. Several overnight "cruises "to Buery's Dam under the tutelage of J. Lee Calahan, Sea Scout Director for Region 3, featured the first summer's activities of the ship.

The Ship was encountering plenty of difficulty, apparently headed for the rocks, until Commodore Edw. M. Israel, of Harrisburg, made his appearance, standing a trick at the wheel until the shoals were well cleared.

The commissioning of ex-Lieutenant Wm. B. Krieg, U. S. N., as First Mate of the Joel T. Boone, settled the destiny of the ship. From this point on Sea Scouting was an assured feature of the Scout life of Pottsville.

The obtaining of a fourteen foot punt from the League Island Navy Yard through the Schuylkill County Council created added interest in the movement. This craft was launched on the surface of Sweet Arrow Lake during the Spring of 1931. The Crew of the Joel T. lost no time in becoming proficient in handling their square nosed craft.

Ninety per cent. of the Crew made up the delegation to the First Experimental Sea Scout Rendezvous at Linsted Camp, Severne Park, Md., in the forepart of 1931, making the trips in the automobiles of John Swalm and R. N. Kirkland. Two cruises to the United States Military Academy at Annapolis where instructions were received under the Chief Petty Officers stationed at the school enhanced the nautical knowledge of the Sea Scouts.

A change in the meeting place of the Ship took place in 1931 when the second floor of the Tilt Silk Mill clubhouse was obtained thru the kindness of the late Mr. Heath, superintendent. Conflicting meeting times with the drills of the Junior Drum Corps made it a trifle difficult for the Ship to hold to their routine, while the increase in membership also made the need of a larger room necessary. In November 1931, the Ship received its Second Class Ship Burgee, with three members of the Crew becoming Able Sea Scouts.

The outstanding work performed by the Joel T. Boone, made it the unofficial investing organization of the county. "Cruises" were made to Buck Run, Girardville, Hegins, Locust Dale, Middleport, Mill Creek, Pinegrove, Tamaqua and Valley View where investure services were carried out for newly formed troops of Boy Scouts. The local Crew also invested troops at the First Presbyterian, Second Presbyterian, Methodist, African Methodist and

First Reformed Church, as well as at the Mission in Pottsville.

With the approach of '32, the Joel T. began to function in several other social respects, with several "cruises" being made to neighboring ships and points of interest. Ten members of the crew with Skipper Krieg and Commissioner Simonds motored to Harrisburg, where several days of instructions were spent on the Susquehanna. Shortly after the return, Vance Moyer was made Acting First Mate of the Ship, with advances being made by other members of the Crew.

The publishing of new orders to rate Standard, in order to become acceptable for the Regional flagship, disclosed the fact that nine socials must be held yearly. Plans laid immediately resulted in a series of monthly parties. The first was held at the home of Boatswain Smith, with the place properly decorated in Sea Scout colors of blue and white, and the ships' bell, gangplank, International Code Flags and streamers all in order for the occasion.

Headed by Mate Vance Moyer, five members attended the Second Sea Scout Rendezvous at Misery Bay, Erie, Pa., in the summer of 1932. Rowing, paddling, sailing and cruising for two weeks in all sizes and shapes of ships, the Scouts came home with a greater store of knowledge in Sea Scouting than obtainable at home through the study of the manuals. Drill with the breeches buoy was also included in their education in life saving. Vance Moyer and Bob Conrad gained their Quartermastership at this time, the highest rank in Sea Scouting.

With the arrival of two members at Quartermaster, the Ship swung into preparations for a Bridge of Honor and Ball. Careful plans were drawn up with invitations being printed and the Armory rented and decorated with flags and bunting borrowed for the occasion. A large-scale model of a destroyer was also included in the plans. The invitations resulted in Commodore Israel bringing members from the Harrisburg ships, Stephen Decatur and the Olympia, as well as Crews from Tamaqua, Frackville, Ashland and other Ships in the county. At the Bridge of Honor six of the Crew received their Apprentice Sea Scout rank, four advanced to Ordinary Sea Scouts, four more became Able Sea Scouts and Bob Conrad and Vance Moyer received their Quartermaster Badges. The dance following was a great success.

A "coup de grace" early in January, 1933, resulted in the Rotary Club taking over the sponsorship of the Joel T. Boone, following several conferences between the club's representatives and the ship's officers.

The Joel T. Boone is now sailing its third year of active service in the community, and although fog, high winds, rocks and rough seas, have been encountered from time to time, the spirit of Commodore Israel who brought it off the shoals in its early career, still dominates the crew when black skies hover over the topmasts.

Troops in 1934

In concluding this history, two more items may be brought to mind. First, while there have been many outstanding Scout leaders and Scouts over the span of years covered by this record, it is hardly fair to bring out any one individual above the others. All interested in the movement have tried their best to make it one of the outstanding features of the juvenile life of the community. The constant changing of the roster of the troops and troop committee made it impossible to put

down the names of all who participated in the activities since Scouting had its inception in Pottsville.

Secondly, a roll call of the present troops registered at Scout Headquarters would be a fitting close to show that Scouting is on the upward trend once more, with more boys than ever engaged in the movement. The following is the list:

Troop 1, Y. M. C. A., Alvin Dress, Scoutmaster; Troop 2, St. John the Baptist Roman Catholic Church, Wil fred Wachter, Scoutmaster; Troop 3, Lions Club, Robert Michel, Scoutmaster; Troop 4, Frick Bible Class, First Presbyterian Church, John V. Gressang, Scoutmaster; Troop 6, Kiwanis Club, Andrew Campion, Scoutmaster; Troop 7, Sea Scout Ship Joel T. Boone, Rotary Club, Carlton Simonds, Skipper; Troop 8, Pottsville Mission, Alvin Wenrich, Scoutmaster; Troop 9, Methodist Church, Wm. Kendrick, Scoutmaster; Troop 10, First Reformed Church, Irvin Martin, Scoutmaster; Troop 11, Bethel M. E. Church, Wm. D. Harvey, Scoutmaster; Troop 12, Trinity Lutheran Church, John Menchy, Scoutmaster; Troop 13, Oheb Zedeck Congregation, Jack Goldberg, Scoutmaster; Troop 15, St. Patrick's Holy Name Society, Bernard Kirkpatrick, Scoutmaster.



Legion Post -- A Veteran's Achievement

(From "Pottsville Republican"-"Morning Paper," August 9, 1934)

The Robert B. Woodbury Post No. 67 of the American Legion has been in existence since 1919 after the close of the World War and since that time has played an important part in the life of the community.

It was on the evening of May 1st, 1919 that the organization meeting was held in the P. & R. C. & I. Co. building. Those present included Capt. J. B. Rogers, Chairman of the Draft Board in Dist. No. 5, 1st Lieut. C. M. Sheafer, 1st Lieut. Seth Reese, 1st Lieut. Geo. H. Kaercher, Sergt. R. C. Thornburg, Corp. Thos. Rehr, and Privates R. S. Hoffman, L. G. Omlor, T. Hollahan and Sergt. R. C. Calder of the Canadian Army. A letter was read from Major W. G. Murdock, in charge of the Selective Service Headquarters for Penna., setting forth the purpose of the American Legion and telling of a convention to be held at St. Louis, Mo., May 8th, 9th and 10th for the purpose of drawing up a constitution for presentation when the troops arrived home from overseas. Lieut. Sheafer and Corp. Rehr were appointed delegates.

The next meeting was on Sept. 15 at the Armory at which time the meeting was called to order by Capt. George Streigel, who had been appointed temporary chairman on Aug. 17th. Plans were made to secure members.

Sept. 26th at the C. & I. building, a report was made on the preliminary organization work which had been done and delegates were selected to the convention which was to be held at Harrisburg, Oct. 2, 3 and 4. Messrs. Seth Reese, Clinton W. Sheafer, J. H. Zerbey, Jr., and Peter Pugh were elected as delegates with Wm. Deiter, J. Edward Kirkpatrick, Walker Kinsey and G. Morton MacDonald as alternates.

Chairman Streigel named the executive committee as follows: Jos. J. Fiedler, Earl L. Spannuth, Albert E. Ney, Harry J. Ney, Wm. J. Martin, Parke Hood, J. H. Zerbey, Jr., Carter Youngfleisch, Howard D. Spaide, Robert S. Hoffman, Wm. H. Speacht, Jos. E. Schlottman, R. G. Thornburg, W. Graeff, Herbert T. Quinn, G. Morton MacDonald, J. Edw. Kirkpatrick, Louis Rosenzweig, Geo. D. Eckert, John M. Keenan, Edw. T. Wachter, Claude C. Hafer, Walker H. Kinsey and W. S. Farquhar.

A committee was appointed to prepare resolutions similar to those of other public bodies in Pottsville in regard to the violation of the ballot box in the Fifth Ward.

The work of organization was carried on and on Oct. 13th, the committees reported on their plan for financing the upkeep of headquarters for the Post and the dues and $400 from the sale of the Engineering equipment which the Patriotic League had given to Co. C which had now been disbanded, showed that there would be an income of about $1,000 for the year. $150 was received from the Patriotic League and the balance of the funds from the Labor Day celebration was donated to the Post in order that it might get itself established.

The name of the Robert B. Woodbury Post No. 67, was selected in honor of a Pottsville boy who had made the Supreme Sacrifice and the committee submitted the By-Laws at the Oct. 18th meeting.

Formal Organization

It was on Nov. 21st, that the formal organization took place. The By-laws were adopted and the fol-

lowing officers were elected: Commander, George Streigel; Vice Commander, Wm. B. Covington; Post Adjutant, L. G. Omlor; Finance Officer, C. W. Sheafer; Chaplain, Russell Muench; and Historian, Helen Schlottman.

The charter members were as follows: Geo. Streigel, Cecil M. Wilhelm, Daniel S. Gressang, Peter J. Pugh, Robert A. Swalm, Clinton W Sheafer, Cyril J. Lennox, Thos. A. Rehr, Wm. C. Green, Jas. M. Conway, Raymond Sharp, Lyell Thompson, Frank Youngfleisch, Wm. H. Hayes, Thos. B. Martin, Claude C. Hafer, Jas. N. Shaw, Edw. S. Shaw, Harry C. Dull, Jas. F. Cantwell, Bertrand L. Beyerle, Russell E. Muench, Walker H. Kinsey, and Edmund S. Brennan.

On Dec. 13, 1919, an organization of all the County Legion Posts was formed at a meeting at Sch. Haven. The permanent officers elected were: Chairman, Geo. Streigel; Vice Chairman, Dr. Robert Lenker, Sch. Haven; Secy., Homer Sarge, Pinegrove; Treas., Ray Leidich, Tremont. The rooms in the rear of the second floor of 116 W. Market St., the annex to the L. C. Thompson building were leased in that month for use as business headquarters for the Legion as well as for social headquarters for the local Post members and for the county Legion Organization.

The Memorial Committee was instructed to attend the meeting in the G. A. R. rooms to cooperate with the G. A. R. for Memorial services on May 30th, 1920.

Sponsored A Show

"Eyes Right" was sponsored in June by the Legion to raise funds. It was held at the Hippodrome and $2,300.58 was realized from it. June 22nd, Wm. B. Covington resigned as Vice Commander as he was leaving town. Sept. 17th, Col. E. T. Cole was made Victor Medal officer. Plans were announced to produce "The Isle of Surprise" at the Hippodrome for five nights during Institute Week.

On Nov. 19th, 1920, the election of officers was held, resulting as follows: Wm. B. McCool, Commander; Wm. C. Green, Vice Commander; E. T. Cole, Finance Officer; D. S. Gressang, Adjutant; Peter Pugh, Chaplain, and J. H. Zerbey, Jr., Historian. Gressang was unable to serve and John Keenan was elected in his place.

Jan. 18th, 1921, the executive committee requested that the School Board sanction a plan whereby Capt. Ray H. Larkin could organize a squad from the R. O. T. C. boys of the Pottsville High School to conduct burial ceremonies for ex-service men in behalf of the American Legion.

An Athletic Association was formed and in March, Jas. F. Cantwell, Chairman, reported that all was progressing toward the formation of a ball club to be sponsored by the Legion.

Women's Auxiliary Formed

It was found that a Women's Auxiliary of the Legion would be a great aid in the work of the Legion among ex-service men and their families and the formal organization of the Auxiliary took place on Aprii 19, 1921 and since that time, it has proved a valuable asset to the Legion.

A Rifle Team was organized from among the Legion boys and as a rifle range had been built at the Armory, the team met there for practice. They organized on May 17th, with the following officers: Pres., M. D. Zimmerman; Vice Pres., C. E. Hoover; Secy., C. E. Hoffman and Treas. and Executive Officer, Sergt. Chas. Tackman, in charge of the R. O. T. C.

Smokers were held from time to time in order to promote sociability.

Call To Service Drive

On Aug. 30th, a banquet was held at which a "Call to Service" drive for members was launched, with the slogan of "A Buck for a Buck," Wm. Hurley was in charge of the drive, assisted by T. H. Beddall. with the following captains: Jos. W Geary, Jr., J. P. Hood, Maynard Stapleton, Nelson Shaw, Claude Hafer, J. H. Zerbey, Jr., Roy Bausum, Emanuel Yedinsky, J. E. Schlottman, D. S. Dressang, Dr. M D. Zimmerman, Geo. Kaercher, Geo. Barnhardt, Edw. Fisher, Poet Umpleby, Roy Knowles, Wm. C. Green, Harold Seiders, John Hadesty, C. E. Hoover, Geo. Knowles, Frank Powers, Al. Richards, Wm. McCool and Dr. W. A. Bacon. The goal was 1,000 members.

Sept. 16th, the Legion at its regular meeting moved to heartily cooperate with the Adjutant General of Penna. to locate a company of the National Guards in Pottsville. Dance was reported as having been held at Schuylkill Park, on which $50 was cleared. Oct. 19th, Mrs. Smith, President of the Women's Auxiliary, appeared at the meeting and announced that the Auxiliary had purchased some dishes and that thereafter lunch would be served at the meetings. Plans were made for the Legion members to parade on Armistice Day.

At the meeting of Nov. 18th, officers were elected as follows: Post Commander, J. A. Kaiser; 1st Vice Commander, Frank E. Powers; 2nd Vice Commander, A. J. Womer; Adjutant, Leo G. Omlor; Finance Officer, Geo. H. Kaercher; Post Historian, Helen Schlottman, and Chaplain, H. W. Brink.

A. E. F. Club Joins Legion

One of the first matters to come before the executive committee in 1922 was the consolidation with the A. E. F. Club. On Jan. 20th, the agreement for consolidation was accepted and it was decided that the Legion should change its quarters from the Thompson building to the Eber building, the former quarters of the A. E. F. Club.

The A. E. F. Club had been in existence for about the same length of time as the Legion Post. During its life, the club had held a tag day on July 15th, 1919, the anniversary of the first attack on Chatteau Thierry, for the purpose of raising money to provide quarters for the club. John Duffy acted as Chairman and Daniel Argall as secretary.

One of the other activities of the A. E. F. Club was a military ball which was held in the Armory on Feb. 16, 1920. The patronesses were: Mrs. J. B. Cullum, who founded the club, Mrs. A. N. Milliken, Mrs. H. Bechtel, Mrs. W. J. Richards, Mrs. W. F. Mortimer and Mrs. Daniel Gressang. The officers at that time were: J. D. Duffy, Pres.; Morris M. Eber, Vice Pres.; Daniel J. Roth, Secy.; J. Edw. Kirkpatrick, Treas. The committee for the ball was composed of Jos. J. Fielder, Chairman; Geo. B. Barnhardt, John Kroll and Edw. Marburger.

The members of the A. E. F. Club who transferred their membership to the Legion were as follows: Geo. Barnhardt, E. Buehler, Geo. Barnes, Robert Brigham, Mrs. J. Barlow Cullum, Harry Childs, Jos. Cookson, Daniel Campbell, Walter Cardin, Thos. Carey, Harvey Derr, Harry Dunkleberger, Morris Eber, Lewis Evans, Chas. Evans, Francis Eiler, Francis Flanagan, Ed. Flanagan, Harry Fitzpatrick, Andrew Francavage, Francis Freiler, D. S. Gressang, Jas. Graeff, Robert Glenwright, Vaughn M. Hipple, Ralph Hepler, Leroy Knowles, Wm. Kramer, Chas. Keller, Samuel Lee, Jos. Lynch, Raymond Martin, Norman Marberger, Wm. G. Morgan, Dr. John J. Moore, Norman Mortimer,

Jas. McConnon, John Phillips, Theo. Russell, William Speacht, Alfred Schoenfelder, Geo. Schuyler, Jacob Semar, Roy Schnaufer, Harry Schoeneman, Fred Schaffer, Geo. Soellner, Elmer Taylor, Leonard Walleisa, Arthur Womer, Jos. Wisnoski, Howard Wolcox, Karl B. Yaisle, Fred Youst, Norman Youst.

J. Parke Hood served as Commander during the year 1923; John M. Keenan, 1st Vice Commander; Wm. B. McCool, 2nd Vice Commander; H. W. Brink, Adjutant; Russell Muench, Post Finance Officer, and Thos. H. Beddall, Chaplain. At the meeting of Jan. 19th of that year, Francis J. Francis was elected Post Historian. At the meeting of Feb. 16th, it was announced that plans had been made to secure a charter for a Voiture Local, La Societe des Hommes 40 et Chevaux 8, for Schuylkill County with headquarters in Pottsville.

The question of a contribution for the Graves Memorial Fund, in connection with the National Campaign for $100,000 to be used for permanent care of the graves overseas, was discussed and the Post contributed $25 and individual members gave additional money which brought the fund up to $57, the Legion's quota being about $50.

John E. Schlottman having resigned as baseball manager, Jos. Cookson was elected manager and Wm. McCool, assistant manager on April 20th. The Industrial League in which the Legion had a team was ready to open on June 4th.

Purchased A Home

Although the Post had always had comfortable quarters up to this time, it was necessary for them to have a home in which they could have a meeting place, recreational quarters and a room in which to entertain visitors. A special meeting was called on Sept. 30th, for the purpose of ascertaining the desire of the members in regard to purchasing the property at 520 Garfield Square for a Post Home. Chairman Edw. Kirkpatrick made a report about the property and a motion was made by Schlottman and seconded by Francis A. Francis that the Home Committee be authorized to make a payment on the property and arrange to finance it. There were twenty members present and the motion carried.

The members of the executive committee was formed into a Board of Directors of the Legion Post, as a Penna. corporation with the Commander of the Post as the President, and were empowered to arrange the purchase of the building and to make arrangements for a campaign for the Legion Home Fund. The Legion and the Auxiliary accepted an invitation to attend church at the Trinity Episcopal Church on Armistice Day. The campaign for funds officially opened on Nov. 12, at a supper at the Y. M. C. A. building. The total amount secured by contributions and pledges was $38,050.35.

Under N. S. Farquhar, the General Chairman of the drive were the following workers: Clinton W. Sheafer, Vice Chairman, in charge of the American Legion Division; Rev. E. A. Bawden, Vice Chairman, in charge of the Citizen's Division and Mrs. J. Wood Mussina, Vice Chairman, in charge of the American Legion Auxiliary Division.

In the Citizen's Division, there were eight teams, which were made up as follows:

Team No. 1, W. J. Biever, Capt., workers, Edw. Fisher, E. W. Walters, A. C. Silvius and U. H. Nuss.

Team No. 2, Geo. M. Keiser, Capt., A. C. Hasler, Jas. Archbald, G. T. Burd, R. C. Bevan, and Wm. Downey.

No. 3, E. S. Fernsler, Capt., F. P. Mortimer, Frank Hay, V. D. Rickert, and E. J. Miller.

No. 4, C. A. Wade, Capt., J. P. H. Bartlett, H. I. Paul, R. B. Serfass. C. N. Wagner, and J. H. Moyer.

No. 5, T. K. Leininger, Capt., N. H. Rich, C. B. Sillyman, and J. F. Seiders.

No. 6, O. L. Underwood, Capt., L. C. Taylor, C. Messersmith, Wm. J McQuail.

No. 7, C. P. Hoffman, Capt., Wm. Womer, W. L. Bollinger, Jas. F. Canfield, E. D. Brown, and Roscoe R. Koch.

No. 8, Homer Knapp, Capt., J. W Fox, J. J. McKnight, E. C. Luther, C. A. Hall, Conrad K. Hock, and W L. Stevenson.

In the American Legion Division, the teams were as follows:

Team No. 1, Wm. B. McCool, Capt Robt. J. Smith, W. H. Hodgson, Geo. Schuster, and John Quinn.

No. 2, J. E. Schlottman, Capt., G. B. Barnhardt, Harry Kotz, A. J. Womer, and N. A. Mortimer.

No. 3, W. C. Green, Capt., J. M. Swalm, E. Kirkpatrick, R. Wilson, H. B. Seiders, and C. Hafer.

No. 4, J. A. Kaiser, Capt., W. H. Speacht, Karl Yaisle, Dr. Harvey M. Moore, John Ginley, and Fred Von Der Heiden.

No. 5, Jos. Cookson, Capt., Norman Youst, Jas. Graeff, L. Omlor, and J. M. May.

No. 6, T. H. Beddall, Capt., J. M Harris, J. W. Hadesty, J. W. Geary, Jr., E. F. Yedinsky.

No. 7, Geo. H. Kaercher, Capt., R. A. Swalm, D. S. Gressang, Lorenz Miller, R. A. Riley, H. O. Knapp and Francis A. Francis.

No. 8, L. A. Delph, Capt., N. F. Long, Fred Youst, R. O. Witman, Wm. Hurley and Edgar Downey.

The American Legion Auxiliary teams were made up as follows: Team No. 1, Mrs. John J. Moore, Capt., Mrs. F. Kline, Mrs. A. Griesbaum, Mrs. John Childs, and Mrs. E. Mortimer.

No. 2, Mrs. E. B. Wright, Capt.. Mrs. Sam Hepner, Mrs. Al. Sinton, Mrs. Guy Schultz, and Mrs. George Fox.

No. 3, Mrs. Edith Kirkpatrick. Capt., Mrs. M. L. Long, Miss M. Clarissa McCool, Mrs. E. K. Schraeder, Mrs. Emily Morgans.

No. 4, Mrs. L. E. Moore, Capt., Miss Eliz. Fox, Miss Ethel L. Hipple, and Mrs. R. Mills.

No. 5, Miss Ruth Wilson, Capt., Mrs. W. H. Shearstone, Mrs. George Kaier, Mrs. Robert Woodbury, and Mrs. J. Parke Hood.

No. 6, Mrs. E. E. Hoffman, Capt., Mrs. Ida Mortimer, Mrs. Edwin Holt, Mrs. H. Dunkleberger, and Mrs. Sam Losch.

No. 7, Mrs. L. Shipe, Capt., Mrs. Wm. Cookson, Mrs. Vivian Martin, Mrs. S. Mitchell, Mrs. Harry Parsons.

No. 8, Mrs. Claude Hafer, Capt., Mrs. Sullivan, Mrs. A. B. Guiterman, Mrs. Wm. Hurley, and Mrs. Mary Mortimer.

Jan. 1st, 1924, Open House was held in the Legion Home. The officers for the year were. Commander. Geo. H. Kaercher; 1st Vice Commander, C. W. Sheafer; 2nd Vice Commander, W. C. Green; Adjutant, Edw. Kirkpatrick; Post Finance Officer, Russell Muench; Asst. Post Finance Officer, H. W. Brink; Post Historian, F. A. Francis, and Chaplain, Howard D. Talbott.

Services at Synagogue

Armistice Day, 1925, a mass meeting was held in the Jewish Community Centre, with a program which was followed by a smoker at the Legion Home. At the Community Centre, Louis Holstein presided and the Boy Scouts of the Congregation, under the direction of A. Frumkin, assistant Scout leader, gave the salute to the Flag. Rev. C. W. Kitto, pastor of the Methodist Church and Rabbi H. J. Beck of the Oheb Zedeck Congregation spoke.

Robert O. Witman was Commander of the Post during 1925; Wm. H. Speacht, 1st Vice Commander; Ronald J. Wilson, 2nd Vice Commander; Arthur J. Womer, Adjutant; C. W Sheafer, Finance Officer; J. E Schlottman, Asst. Finance Officer, and F. A. Francis, Post Historian, Chaplain, Rev. Talbott.

Drive For New Members

May 18, 1926, the Legion launched a drive for members and many ex-service men affiliated themselves with the organization as a result.

The 1926 officers were as follows. Commander, Peter J. Pugh; 1st Vice Commander, Herbert T. Quin; 2nd Vice Commander, Karl B. Yaisle; Adjutant, D. S. Gressang; Finance Officer, Harold Hellyer; Post Historian, F. A. Francis, and Chaplain, Rev. Talbot. May 24th of that year, the Legion members attended memorial services at the Trinity Lutheran Church, with Rev. E. W. Weber, former Army Chaplain, in charge. The Spanish American and Civil War Veterans also attended, as usual.

On April 21st, 1926, a delegation from the local Post went to Phila. to participate in an American Legion Rally. Those in the local delegation were: Peter J. Pugh, Harold Hellyer, Claude Hafer, Francis A. Francis, Thos. Argus, Stanley Wagner, Sam Lee, John Schott, Jas Graeff, Francis E. Moore, Clyde Storch, Geo. B. Barnhardt, Fred Greisel, Louis Flatto, Thos. A. Rehr, Arthur Carey, Geo. W. Knowles, C. Dolbin, F. Knowles, Fred DeVecca, Wm. Griesbaum, H. Seiders, Karl Yaisle, Harry Katz, Geo. H. Kaercher, Wm. Hurley, and Paul Schultz.

March 26th of that year, a county ceremony was held at the Armory at which the 213th Coast Artillery Band furnished the music. Dist. Commander Chas. Gebert, of Tamaqua, presided. State Commander L. McKay Crumrine, of Washington. Pa., spoke of membership in the Legion and Capt. Walter E. Laurer, of Reading, on Citizen's Training Camps. Jacob Miller, Vice Commander, of the Eastern District, of Somerton, H. P. Crosso, of the U. S. Veterans' Bureau of Phila., and John Dervine, of Phila., State Finance Officer, and Leo Collins, of Pittsburgh, Past State Executive, also spoke.

Among the Legion Commanders of the county who made short speeches were: Harry Burkert, Sch. Haven; Michael O'Neil, Mahanoy City; Edw. Conley, Middleport; John Melley, Coaldale; Frank Billig, Tamaqua; John Urban, McAdoo; Elmer Smith, Cressona; Geo. Adams, of Girardville; Wm. Morris, St. Clair; Arthur Zulick, Orwigsburg; John Young, Shenandoah; Wm. Bull, Pt. Carbon; Homer Sarge, Pinegrove; Dr. T. C. Fegley, Tremont; Wm. Roberts, Frackville; Dr. J. L. Hoffman, Ashland; John Trout, Tower City; Roger Prosser, Minersville; Clarence Brobst, Auburn, and Russell Santee, Gordon.

June 14th, the Legion joined with the Elks in observance of Flag Day at the Elks Home, Rev. R. A. Bausch pastor of Trinity Reformed Church, was the speaker and as a feature, the Elks Male Chorus under the leadership of Edgar D. Brown, made its first public appearance.

Formed Bugle Corps

The Legion became interested in the formation of a Bugle Corps during this year, and the movement was started in June, with Geo. W. Dewald starting plans for the corps. The formal organization did not take place until Nov. 5th, at the Legion Home.

Oct. 5th, a drive for $5,200 for the National Endowment Fund of the Legion was successful, $5,908 being raised. Oct. 8th, Col. Robt. M. Vail, State Commander, was the

speaker at an initiation and installation ceremony, with the Tamaqua degree team in charge, at the Armory. The officers installed for 1927 were: Post Commander, Harold Hellyer; 1st Vice Commander, D. S. Gressang; 2nd Vice Commander, Geo. Barnhardt; Adjutant, Harry Kotz; Finance Officer, Peter J Pugh; Historian, F. A. Francis, Chaplain, Rabbi Herman J. Beck. A change was made in the Legion fiscal year, which now extended from Oct. 20th to Oct. 20th, instead of from Jan. 1st.

In proper observance of Armistice Day, the Legion sponsored a patriotic service in the Patterson Building. John Bonin, of Hazleton, was the guest speaker.

Dec. 15, 1926, the Legion decided to provide guards for streets in the town so that coasting might be made safe for children, whenever there was snow. As a fitting close to the year, the Legionnaires and the Auxiliary entertained the children who were made orphans by the World War. The children were entertained at the Hipp, and then taken to the Legion Home.

Sponsor Americanization School

Jan. 5th, 1927, the first session of an Americanization School was opened in the Centre St. school building. About 50 adult students registered. The committee in charge, with Jack Duffy as chairman, was composed of Rev. Talbott, Rev. Weber, Rabbi Beck, F. Francis and G. Harold Weiss. English and history were the principal branches taught.

On Jan. 21st, a committee was appointed to make plans for the organization of a Scout Troop, to be known as the Robert Woodbury Post Troop. The first Forty and Eight wreck in the county was staged in the local Armory, under the auspices of the Forty and Eight Club about this time.

Feeling the vital importance of the coal industry to this region, the Post sponsored a county essay contest on the subject "Anthracite Coal and Its Uses,' among the school pupils of the county.

Scout Troop Formed

The Scout Troop was formally oranized on Feb. 22nd, at the Legion Home, with the following boys being placed on the roll: Abram Earl Rohrer, Benj. S. Martin, Harry Schneider, Elsworth Walters, John Dreher, Wm. Welker, John McGlone, Jos. Brennan and Robt. Folweiler. Harold Schneider was elected patrol leader, and John McGlone, assistant.

The "On To Paris Club' was very active at this time, with musicales, sales, and other events being held to raise a fund to send the members of the club to Paris in Sept. to attend the Legion meeting. The annual county meet of the Legion was held at Shenandoah on Apr. 5th, and the local Post sent representatives. The Bugle Corps of the local Post made their first public appearance at this time.

The Legion also sponsored a Fashion Show Frolic and Healthy Baby Show at the Charlton Hall for five nights, starting Apr. 20th. On May 25th, the commencement exercises of the Americanization school were held at the High School, with Federal Judge Albert W. Johnson, of the Middle U. S. Penna. Court District as the guest speaker.

As usual, there was a proper observance of Memorial Day, and the Legion attended service at the Trinity Reformed Church on May 29th.

July 13th, the members of the Legion Scout Troop left with the

county Boy Scouts for their annual pilgrimage to Valley Forge. There were 300 Boy Scouts on the trip. Sept. 9th, Mrs. John J. Moore, president of the Legion Auxiliary; Miss Amelia Griesbaum, Louis Flatto, Saml. R. Lee, Jos. Cookson, Arthur Womer, C. W. Sheafer, Jas. W. Keller and Harry Schoeneman sailed for France on the Tuscania. An Armistice Day parade, and celebration at the Legion Home was held on Nov. 11th.

On Sept. 16th, the meeting was held for the election of officers for the coming year, with the results as follows: Post Commander, C. W. Sheafer; Vice Commander, Francis A. Francis; 2nd Vice Commander, Fred E. DeVecca; Adjutant, Harry Kotz; Finance Officer, Peter J. Pugh; Historian, Carter Youngfleisch. Mr. Sheafer, being unable to give the time necessary to the work, declined the honor, and Fred DeVecca was elected Commander. The officers were installed on Oct. 21st.

During the year 1928, there were many Legion activities, such as card parties by the Auxiliary, a Christmas party for the children, taking care of the sick in the hospitals, and the observance of Memorial Day and Armistice Day, as well as participation in the banquet and reception given to Edwin E. Spafford, National Commander. at Tamaqua on Apr. 21st. Rabbi Beck, of the local post, was elected National Chaplain of the Legion at its meeting at San Antonio, Tex., but resigned in Jan., 1929.

Sept. 21st, the election of officers was held, and Francis Moore was elected Post Commander; Geo. Knowles, Adjutant; Herbert Quin, Chaplain; Norman Mortimer, Service Officer; Harold Hellyer, Finance Officer; Sergeant-at-Arms Jos. Graeff, and Historian, F. A. Francis.

April 19, 1929, the Legion voted to present a medal to the best adjudged girl in the public and parochial school. The Legion once again had charge of the annual Memorial Day observance and a parade was held followed by a program at Garfield Square with Monsignor Geo. L. Leech, as the orator.

During this year, the Legion sponsored the American Legion Junior Baseball League in which there were fourteen teams represented. Awards of Legion medals for courage, leadership, honesty, service and scholarship which were to have been presented at Commencement time, and in connection with which there was some delay, were presented on July 3, 1929 to Dean Stevenson, Jackson St., public school; Harold B. Fisher, Yorkville public school; Geo. Davis, Bunker Hill public school; Jack McAnulty, Mary, Queen of Peace Parochial School, and Martin Wixted, St. Patrick's Parochial School.

Sept. 19, 1929, Clarence Marberger was elected Legion Commander at the annual meeting; Mark Hartman, 1st Vice Commander; Fred DeVecca, 2nd Vice Commander; Geo. Knowles, Adjutant; Harold Hellyer, Finance Officer; Francis Francis, Post Historian, and Stern Picton, Sergt. At Arms. The report showed that under the leadership of Francis Moore as Commander, the Post membership had arisen to 206 members. Oct. 17th, the officers were formally installed by Dist. Commander W. W. Evans, of Mahanoy City. Jack Quinn and Joe Boley of the Athletics, were given a testimonial banquet under the auspices of the Legion at the Necho Allen.

Give Service Certificate

Samuel Friedman, manager of the Capitol Theatre, was chosen by the Post as the recipient of the Distinguished Service Certificate of the Legion, which is a gift of the State organization but is conferred only on the recommendations of the local Post. The late Congressman G. Frank Brumm, was the speaker at the annual Armistice Day observance at the Armory. Dec. 19th, the Rev. Jos. H. Hartley was chosen as the new chaplain.

Take Over G. A. R. Post Relics

March 20, 1930, the Legion again entered a team in the Junior Baseball League, with Fred DeVecca in charge of the team. On Aug. 14, 1930, Gowen Post No. 23, Grand Army of the Republic formally disbanded and at the Legion meeting, the officers of Gowen Post notified them that the Post had ceased to exist and that the relics, all furniture and fixtures contained in the quarters at the Armory would be handed over to the custody of the Legion. The surviving veterans at the time were: Clem J. Ackerman, 88; Geo. C. Welker, 86; Thomas Knowles, 86; Alfred Bean, 84; Bernard Lynch, 84; Chas. B. Palsgrove, 84, and Michael McAllister, 89, all that remained of a total membership of 684 on June 30, 1887.

Sponsored Big Celebration

The biggest event of the year was the four day celebration which was sponsored by the Legion to make the opening of the King's Highway, or Centre St., after the paving had been completed. On. Aug. 12th, a Legion committee consisting of Commander Clarence Marberger, Fred DeVecca, George Knowles, Bert G. Dunlop, William Griesbaum and Harry Kotz asked City Council for permission to stage a mammoth celebration in connection with the street opening. The celebration opened on Wednesday, Sept. 17th with a colorful parade in the evening and the official opening of the street; Thursday afternoon, there was a Baby Parade and Style Show and in the evening, another parade in which all of the fire companies, the school children and the patriotic organizations participated. On Friday, Sept. 19th, there was a program of races in the morning, followed by a Mummer's Parade and Mardi Gras in the evening. Saturday, in the afternoon found the Legion bands and Bugle Corps in competition at the Sports Centre and a big parade in the evening in which the Legion Posts from all the towns of the county and Legion Bugle Corps and Bands participated.

The general committee in charge of the celebration consisted of: Fred DeVecca, Chairman; B. G. Dunlop, Vice Chairman; Clarence E. Marberger, Treas., and George Knowles, Secy.

On Oct. 16, 1930, the installation of officers for the new year took place at the Pottsville Armory, with Chas. E. Gebert, of Tamaqua, Past Department Commander of the Legion installing the officers who were: Commander, B. G. Dunlop; 1st Vice Commander, Wm. Griesbaum; 2nd Vice Commander, Fred E. DeVecca; Adjutant, George Knowles; Service Officer, D. S. Gressang; Historian, Francis A. Francis, and Sergt. At Arms, Stern Picton.

Nov. 7th, a special committee from the Legion appeared before the School Board and asked that the new high school building be erected as a memorial to all World War veterans and proffered an eight acre tract situated west of 12th St.. on what is known as the Penn Land tract. The School Board refused the Legion's offer and announced its in-

tention of purchasing the Fisher plot.

12th Anniversary of Armistice

Memories of the World War were revived by the Legion on Nov. 11th of this year, when the 12th anniversary of the signing of the Armistice was celebrated with impressive services at Garfield Square. 147 children were guests of the Legionnaires at the annual party on Christmas Day.

On Jan. 8th, 1931, the presentation of the new standards to the Legion Bugle and Drum Corps took place at the Tilt Silk Mill recreation rooms. The local Post also joined in the county cavalcade to Harrisburg to report on the membership drive to the state headquarters, on Jan. 10th. On Feb. 23rd, the Legion Post and its Bugle Corps welcomed the Salvation Army Band upon its visit to Pottsville and the band members were guests of the Legion Auxiliary at dinner on Saturday. Rev. Cutler acted as the orator for the Memorial Day observance and on Sunday morning, May 24th, the veterans of all wars attended services in the Second Presbyterian Church, where Rev. W. F. Riggs preached the sermon. On July 4th, the Post sent representatives to the county Legion celebration at Minersville and the Pottsville Legion Bugle Corps captured the first prize of $75 for being the best bugle corps in line.

Oct. 15th, 1931, the new officers of the Post were installed by Walter Evans, of Mahanoy City, Commander of the 13th District. The officers installed were: Commander, W. Geo. Knowles; 1st Vice Commander, Geo. Heffner; 2nd Vice Commander, Mark C. Hartman; Finance Officer, Fred De Vecca; Adjutant, Harry Koenig; Service Officer, Peter J. Pugh; Post Chaplain, Rev. Cutler, and Sergt. at Arms, John Krebs.

On Nov. 11th, a fitting Armistice Day celebration was held with Judge Palmer as the chief speaker and in the evening, the Post sponsored a military ball in the Ritz Charlton Hall, with the proceeds being contributed to the Red Cross for emergency relief work.

Bi-Centennial Observance

One of the first events during 1932, was the participation in the Washington BiCentennial observance in the churches, with the Legion attending services in the Baptist Church. The Post also assisted in finding employment, temporary and permanent, for a number of men who otherwise would have had no employment. Rev. H. C. Moyer, of the First Evangelical Church, was the Memorial Day orator. Comrade Alfred Bean was the only member of Gowen Post who was able to participate in the services. Comrade Wm. Wummer, Mill Creek Ave., Comrade Chas. Doeple, Jalappa and Comrade John J. Kohler, Civil War veterans also participated. Legion medals were awarded to Earl Liddle of the Jackson St. building and Richard Bennie, of the Yorkville, of the public schools at the close of school.

Representatives of 21 civic and patriotic organizations met at the Legion Home on June 22nd and made plans for a three day George Washington Bicentennial Celebration on Oct. 12, 13th and 14th. In order to finance the celebration, a three day bazaar opened on Sept. 29th in Garfield Square, with the official opening also of six newly paved squares on W. Market St. The new officers were formally installed by Paul Griffith, new State Commander at the 12th St. High School building on Oct. 20th. The officers installed were: Commander, W. L. Daniels; 1st Vice Commander, W. Geo. Knowles; 2nd Vice

Commander, Geo. F. Heffner; Adjutant, Harry Koenig; Service Officer, Mark C. Hartman; Finance Officer, Stanley Wagner; Chaplain, Rev. E. W. Weber; Historian, F. A. Francis, and Sergt. at Arms, Geo. B. Barnhardt. In order not to conflict with the county celebration at Tamaqua on Nov. 11th, the local Legion held its Armistice Day observance on Nov. 10th with John Robert Jones, attorney and Legionnaire of Phila., as the speaker on the program which followed the parade in the evening. Nov. 13th, the Legionnaires attended church at the Trinity Lutheran Church where Rev. Weber delivered the sermon. On Dec. 1st and 2nd, the musical comedy "The China Doll" was produced in the H. S. Auditorium under the auspices of the local Post. The children of ex-service men were entertained on Dec. 26tn with a dinner and theatre party.

Home Rededication

The Legion Home was remodeled and refurnished during 1933, with a rededication ceremony on April 22nd at which Atty. John Elden, of Cleveland, O., and a national executive of the 40 and 8 was the speaker. At this time, the Distinguished Service certificate was presented to O. L. Underwood. After the re-dedication exercises in the Square, a further program was held at the Legion Home at which Atty. Elden spoke. W. K. Woodbury presided and a memorial bronze plaque in memory of the late Robert B. Woodbury was appropriately dedicated. A plaque carved from anthracite coal and containing the American Legion and 40 and 8 emblem was also presented to Mr. Elden. On May 31st, Rev. Weber was the orator. The veterans attended church services at the Methodist Church, at which Rev. F. M. Gray delivered the sermon. Chas. F. Doepel, 91, and John J. Kohler, 88, Civil War veterans, were also present with the veterans. June 22nd and 23rd, the Legion and the Third Brigade Band together sponsored a block party at the Square with the proceeds being equally divided. Philip Malarkey of the St. Patrick parochial school received the American Legion award for character and efficiency.

June 20th, the Legionnaires joined with the veterans of all wars to honor Brigadier Gen. E. C. Shannon, Lt. Governor of Penna., and Judge G. E. Gangloff, at a testimonial reception at the Pottsville Armory. July 19th, Congressman G. Frank Brumm was honored with a testimonial dinner at Lakewood and presented with the Distinguished Service Medal presented by state officials of the 40 and 8 in behalf of the Schuylkill County Chapter No. 695, in appreciation of his services for the veterans. On Sept. 13th, the regular monthly meeting of the 13th District, American Legion, was held at the Pottsville Legion Home. On that same night, the Veterans of Foreign Wars and the Veteran's Voting League held sessions here. Sept. 21st, the Legion sponsored a contest to select a candidate for "Lady Anthracite" and Miss Alice Miller was chosen, with Miss Rita Kriston as the alternate. At the county finals, Miss Cecelia O'Neill, of Minersville, was chosen as the girl who was to accompany the 13th American Legion District to Chicago for the convention.

At the meeting of Sept. 28th, Mark C. Hartman was elected Post Commander; E. J. Richards, 1st Vice Commander; Howard Leeland, 2nd Vice Commander; Harry F. Koenig. Adjutant; Stanley E. Wagner, Finance Officer; W. L. Daniels, Service Officer; Wm. Griesbaum, Post Historian, and Jos. Little, Sergt. at Arms. The 1934 officers were formally installed on Oct. 17th.

During its existence the Legion has been able to be of real service to ex-service men. The officers have taken a personal interest in the welfare of their comrades. The bonus and insurance matters have been handled and during the recent depression, the Legionnaires have performed practical service by caring for the families of many of those who were unable to find employment. The Post has cooperated with every progressive movement in the town. The Legion Home has been made a place at which any ex-soldier could find a place to visit at any time and mingle with congenial comrades. In addition, an effort has been made to keep in touch with every Pottsville boy who may be in a Veterans' Hospital and in a local hospital in need of aid and encouragement. Not only have they shown their interest in the living but also in those comrades who have answered the last roll call and every ex-service man has been buried with proper military honors.

Auxiliary Aids In Work Of Legion

The American Legion Auxiliary is formed of wives, mothers, sisters or daughters of ex-service men, living or dead. It was on Feb. 17th. 1921 that the temporary organization was formed at a meeting of 32 women who assembled in the P. & R. C. & I. Co. building, Mrs. Robert Woodbury was chosen to be the temporary head. The committee in charge of forming the auxiliary was composed of I. N. Gardiner, Jas. Schreader, Arthur Womer, Harold Knapp, Stanley Shaw, Dr. Miles Zimmerman and Wm. McCool.

At a meeting held at the home of Mrs. Woodbury, the application for a temporary charter was made, with the application being signed by Mrs. Robert Woodbury, Mrs. E. B. Wright, Mrs. E. E. Hoffman, Mrs. D. S. Gressang, Mrs. J. J. Moore, Mrs. Kitty Hay and Mrs. C. M. Jenkins.

The first executive committee was composed of Mrs. J. Wood Mussina, Mrs. G. B. Hadesty, Mrs. C. Jenkins, Mrs. Guy Guiterman and Mrs. E. E. Hoffman. Mrs. Hoffman was appointed the historian and has served as such ever since that time.

The drive for members for the Auxiliary was opened on March 14th, with the following committees of canvassers appointed:

First Ward: Capt., Miss Edna Schreader, Miss Mae Wilson, and Miss Stella Warmkessel.

Second Ward: Capt., Mrs. D. S. Gressang, Miss Helen MacDonald, Mrs. Elias Davis, Mrs. Webster Donne, Miss Sullivan, Mrs. David Bechtel, Miss Ruth Wilson, Miss Elizabeth and Miss Mary Bergan, and Mrs. Fred Kershner.

Third Ward: Capt., Miss Hay, Mrs. Ed. Smith, Mrs. C. A. Schlottman.

Fourth Ward: Miss Clarissa McCool, Capt., Mrs. J. E. Schlottman, Mrs. L. A. Delph, Mrs. J. E. Kirkpatrick, Miss Ruth Knowles.

Fifth Ward: Capts., Mrs. J. J. Moore and Mrs. E. E. Hoffman, Miss Esther Houser, Miss Jeffries, and Miss Ruth Hoffman.

Sixth Ward: Capt., Mrs. Martin Moore, Mrs. Geo. Kaier, Mrs. Norman Hipple, Miss Clara Speacht.

Seventh Ward: Mrs. P. E. Wright, Capt., Mrs. Albert Sinton, and Mrs. Clarence Yocum. 300 members were secured.

The drive being successful, the auxiliary was formally organized on April 19th, 1921, with the following officers: President, Mrs. E. D. Smith; Vice Pres., Mrs. Robert B. Woodbury; Mrs. Eli Wright, Secretary, and Mrs. J. J. Moore, Treas. The first meeting after organization was on May 2, 1921.

The permanent charter members of the Auxiliary were as follows: Mrs. J. Wood Mussina, Mrs. D. S. Gressang, Mrs. J. E. Schlottman, Mrs. E. E. Hoffman, Mrs. Chas. Readinger, Miss Amelia Griesbaum, Mrs. R. E. Muench, Mrs. Frank S. Long, Mrs. John J. Moore, Mrs. E. B. Wright, Miss Helen Schlottman, Miss Edna Schreader, Miss Ruth Hoffman, Mrs. Wm. Womer, Mrs. H. G. Dunkleberger, Mrs. A. L. Schuettler, Mrs. Helen Hood, Miss Ruth Wilson, Miss Mae Wilson, Mrs. M. H. Shearstone, and Mrs. Catherine Seiwell, the charter being granted on July 10, 1922.

The Auxiliary started its active work as soon as it was formed. Since it was necessary to have money to carry on the proposed work, the women began a series of card parties and social events with which they financed their undertakings. They volunteered to see that a buffet luncheon or refreshments were served after each Legion meeting and were of valuable assistance whenever the Legionnaires entertained any visiting organization at the Legion Home. Then, too, they took upon themselves the task of seeing that all ex-service men in hospitals were sent gifts and cheery letters and messages at Christmas time and throughout the year. The Legionnaires retaliated by frequently entertaining the Auxiliary members. "Open House" at the Legion Home was inaugurated on New Years' night and was continued each year. They have also taken charge of the sale of poppies each year near Memorial Day, the proceeds to be used for work among the disabled war veterans.

In March, 1927, a sewing club was formed, the functions of the club being the making over of garments to be distributed among the poor. Each year at Christmas time, the Auxiliary members join with the Legionnaires in seeing that the children of deceased or needy veterans are given a delightful Christmastide and at Thanksgiving time have aided in the distribution of groceries to those in need.

The present officers are as follows: President, Miss Helen Munson; Vice Pres., Mrs. Clarence Marberger; Treas., Mrs. Norman Hipple; Secy., Mrs. B. G. Dunlop; Chaplain, Mrs. Chas. Bigler; Sergt. at Arms, Mrs. Elmer Knowles; Recording Secy., Mrs. Guy Schultz; Historian, Mrs. E. E. Hoffman.

Foreign War Veterans Post Grew Rapidly

Schuylkill Post No. 129, Veterans of Foreign Wars is identified with an old veterans' organization which ante-dated the World War, having its origin just after the Spanish American War. It was about 1899 that it was first known before being given its present appellation as Foreign Service Veterans.

On March 7th, 1933, a meeting of ex-service men was held at the Spanish American War Veterans' rooms for the purpose of reviving a post of Veterans of Foreign Wars. The qualifications for membership consist of having had service in the army, navy, marine corps or guard

service abroad in foreign lands or in foreign waters.

Wm. Weidman, of the Greater Reading Post, was the speaker of the evening. On motion of John Troutman, seconded by J. Harry Leib, the new post was named Schuylkill Post No. 129. On March 30th, the election of officers was held with Myron Reese, commander of the Shamokin Chapter presiding.

On May 6th, 1933, the officers were formally installed and the members of the Post were mustered in at a ceremony which was held at the Pottsville Armory with Jas. E. Vanzandt, National Senior Vice Commander as the principal speaker, and State officials Henry Greb, Sr. Vice Commander, G. A. Gnau, department advocate and David Long, department quartermaster in charge of the installation.

The first meeting of the new organization was held on May 24th in the new quarters on the third floor of 113 N. Centre St. Because of the rapid growth of the organization, it was necessary to secure larger quarters. These are on the second floor of the Capitol building 210 N. Centre St., where the entire floor is occupied and furnished with the latest furniture. In the rear of a room is a stage which would do credit to a small sized theatre.

Though but 16 months old, the Post has increased its charter membership from 242 to 392. Two prizes have already been taken because of numerical increase. Four members have died since the Post was instituted, Robert Jefferson, John Yaab, Samuel Pettit and Edw. Monroe. The late Congressman G. Frank Brumm was an honorary member.

It is remarkable that, with a single exception, the full roster of original officers, as elected or appointed, is still serving as follows: Commander, Del. S. Gressang; Senior Vice Commander, John Troutman, Jr., of Orwigsburg; Vice Commander, Edw. Monroe, of Frackville; Quartermaster, Clyde Storch; Chaplain, Stern Picton; Adjutant, Wm. B. Hostler; Surgeons, Drs. Jos. H. Woodland and Robert M. Biddle; Guard, George Warmkessel; Sentinel, Geo. Soellner; Officer-of-the Day, John Tipping; Color Bearers, Chas. Zember and Howard Cavalier; Patriotic Instructor, J. H. Leib; Historian, George Diehl; Bugler, Geo. Heisler; Service Officer, Harry Dunkelberger; Quartermaster Sergt., Jos. Francis; Trustees, John Hutton, Claude Zweibel, Jas. Hartnett. Upon the death of the Junior Vice Commander, Edw. Monroe, George Schuler was elected to fill the vacancy.

The list of charter members follows, all being from Pottsville unless otherwise noted:

John J. Allen, Frackville; Geo. F. Brumm, Minersville; Charles R. Berger; Charles P. Boyle, Silver Creek; Alfonsus L. Brennan; Henry W. Boyer; Percy E. Bubeck, Sch. Haven; Clayton L. Breininger; William A. Bubser; David J. Bowers; Edward F. Burns, Branchdale; Edwin F. Brommer; Norman J. Blankenhorn; Wm. H. Beatty; Edw. C. Brown; Jas. J. Becker; Arthur E. Barry, Muir; David Bowers, Minersville.

Joseph F. Becker, Palo Alto; Clyde J. Burns; Howard J. Cavalier; Joseph P. Cook, Palo Alto; Louis Catsules; John Cominetto, Pine Grove; Jas. B. Clark, New Phila., Harry J. Childs; Richard Campion; Michael R. Coogan, Silver Creek; Joseph A. Cookson; Harry F. Connell; Benjamin H. Combarto, Trenton, N. J.; Delroy C. Covany, Palo Alto; Chas. B. Connell; Wm. T. Curtier; Beck Camodeca.

Leo C. Corby; Geo. W. Cooper, Friedensburg; John F. Dechant; Tudor Davis; Chas. E. Derr; Geo. G Diehl; Jos. Duffy; Wm. R. Donmoyer; Harry C. Dull; Anthony J. Downey; John T. Duffy; Frank S. Downs; Wm. J. Davis; Clyde W Dolbin; Harry B. Deaven, Pine Grove; Bert. G. Dunlop; Harry B. Dunkelberger; Wm. J. Doyle, New Phila.

Gus Dunheimer; John J. Ehlinger; John D. Frantz; Jos. A. Francis, Palo Alto; Ralph J. Fisher, Sch. Haven; Chas. R. Fisher, Port Carbon; Harry A. Fitzpatrick; Harry A. Francis, Corozal, Canal Zone; Andrew J. Francavage; Jos. A. Fleming, Sch. Haven; Wm. J. Fisher, Pinegrove; Curtiss A. Fredericks; Edw. M. Freiler; Wm. J. Gross; Wm. M. Greisbaum; Chas. A. Graeff, Sch. Haven; Harry A. Goas, Sch. Haven; Wm. S. Gainer.

Francesco Generralla; Daniel S. Gressang; Harry E. Fernsler; William E. Hesslop, Frackville; David Holahan; Chas. E. Hain, Pine Grove; George J. Hood; Vincent V. Haley; Wm. G. Hoffman; Wm. H. Hummel. Pine Grove; Jos. L. Hannigan; Geo. F. Heisler; Augustine J. Heine, Frackville; Thos. E. Heffner.

Robert L. Hahn, Frackville; Mark C. Hartman; Wm. B. Hostler; Geo. P. Hartnett; James V. Hartnett, Orwigsburg; John Hutton, Minersville; George A. Hoehn; Wilbur Hawk, Park Crest, Barnesville; Simon E Hand, Muir; Henry J. Hartstein; Burt. J. Hasenauer; Harry Holstein; Raymond M. Jones; Robert H. Jefferson, Duncott.

Frank Kloczka, Silver Creek; Walker H. Kinsey; Jos. H. Kirkpatrick; Harry F. Koenig; Andrew J. Kilmurray; Cyril T. Kelly; Thos. L. Kreitzer, Frackville; Wm. I. Knight; John G. Keller; Frank D. Kennedy, Cressona; Roy Ketner, Sch. Haven; Harry Kaiser; Geo. R. Kalbach; Robert W. Kay.

Edw. J. Kelly; Bernard J. Kirkpatrick; Sampson D. Koch; Clarence I. Lewis; Robert I. Lengle, Minersville; Walter F. Lewis; Austin H. Longsderff, Pine Grove; Benjamin F. Long; John H. Leib; Samuel A. Losch; Harold J. Leiser; Steven Lloyd, Minersville; Geo. E. Mease, Pine Grove; Silas R. Moyer; Milton D. Moore.

Michael P. Murphy, Minersville; Guy E. Moyer, Orwigsburg; J. Bartolet Moyer, Orwigsburg; August J. Mizzer, Minersville; Jesse B. Moyer, Phila.; Isaac Murphy; Edward J. Miller; Raymond S. Mill, Sch. Haven; John P. McConnell, Sch. Haven; Thomas B. Martin; Wm. C. Matthews; Paul A. Michel; Edward J. Monroe, Frackville; Michael McDonald, Palo Alto.

Daniel J. McGinley; Thos. H. Nuttall; Clarence E. Newton; Vincent J. O'Brien; John C. Phillips; Stern F. Picton; Peter W. Poda; Reuben W. Peterson, Sch. Haven; Wm. H. Paton; Norton A. Prichard, Sch. Haven; Arthur J. Potts, Pine Grove; Samuel Pettit, Palo Alto; August Pfluger; James Powell.

Wm. Petroshonis; Thos. A. Reifsnyder; Herbert C. Reber; William H. Roth; Harry J. Ritzel; Joseph F. Reiley; Fred Reinhold; Homer H. Reigel; Thos. A. Rehr; John A. Richards; Peter P. Reilly; Wilfred L. Reilly; John C. Rutter, Orwigsburg.

John J. Reynolds, Minersville; Lewis A. Schweigert, Sch. Haven; Stanley J. Schultz, New Phila.; Alfred H. Schoenfelder; Elmer E. Steinbroom, Orwigsburg; John W. Scheifel; Harry A. Schoeneman; Fred A. Schnopp; Henry F. Spotts; Joseph J. Suzedalis, New Phila.; Harold B. Seiders; Herbert Schell; Earl I. Schoffstall.

Geo. W. Schuster; Leo J. Sullivan, Mt. Carbon; Fred Schaeffer; Wm. L. Stephenson; Lawrence F. Sullivan; Howard P. Sinton; Guy

C. Schultz; August L. Schuettler; Wm. D. Stayman; Geo. E. Soellner; Frank B. Snyder; Frank W. Sincoskie; Geo. D. Schuler.

Stephen A. Sherry, Frackville; Michael Schargo; Harry Sowers, Sch. Haven; Charles Sowers, Sch. Haven; John W. Scott; Harry Schumacher, Sch. Haven; Clyde W. Storch; Geo. H. Steidel; Chas. F. Schlintz; Andrew C. Scheithauer; Joseph J. Strenkofsky, Frackville; Bruno Tassone; Wm. J. Tekatch.

Geo. W. Thompson; John L. Tipping, Diener's Hill; John B. Troutman, Sch. Haven; Geo. H. Umpleby; Robert R. Umpleby; Jas. W. Warmkessel, Port Carbon; Jacob Weiner; Robert C. Wallace; Jos. F. Wesnoski; Wm. W. Witmer; J. Ronald Wilson; Howard C. Wilcox; Stanley E. Wagner.

Geo. D. Warmkessel; Oliver S. Whiteman, Minersville; Dr. J. H. Woodland; John B. Yaab; Fred Youst; Elmer Youst; Wm. York, New Phila.; Claude S. Yeager, Orwigsburg; Joseph M. Zerbe, Ravine; Charles J. Zember, Port Carbon; Walter E. Zimmerman; Frank R. Ziegler, Port Carbon; Charles D. Zoole; Claude L. Zweibel.

John G. Bachinsky, Minersville; Raymond Krevis, New Phila.; Edw. C. Kubeldzis, Minersville; Chas. E. O'Donnell; John A. Weaver, Palo Alto.

Disabled Veterans Organize Chapter

Marne Chapter No. 21 American Disabled Veterans, of the World War, was organized in Pottsville during the summer of 1930, but as interest grew in the American Legion and the later Veterans of Foreign Wars, organizations of much greater numerical strength, the membership of Marne Chapter dropped off. From a maximum enrollment of more than 80 it has now dwindled to little better than a score.

The birth of the Marne Chapter was in a little room, on the third floor of the Brennan building, on Centre St. While there has been no meeting called for nearly a year, it is hoped to early rekindle interest.

It was nearly a year ago that John Yaab, commander of the Marne Chapter, answered his last rollcall. Since his demise there has been no commander elected. Practically without a head for so long a period the old headquarters had to be given up. The charter records and equipment of the organization are now in the hands of Chas. Zember, of Schoentown.

Edward Smolds was the first commander. David Kelly succeeded to that office. Others of the original officers are: Senior Vice Commander, Andrew Kilmurray; Junior Vice Commander, P. J. Murphy, of Minersville; Secy., Earl Spannuth; Treas., Charles Zember.

George Schuler served as a commander and Michael Schargo was an early adjutant.

Perhaps its most outstanding enterprise, since the organization of the Chapter, was a carnival which was conducted in Charlton Hall, a little more than a year ago. A great deal of interest was taken in this feature which occupied the entire week. It was the last big event in the brief history of the organization. At various times there were "smokers", card parties and other social features.

Italian Parish Marks 28th Anniversary

(From "Pottsville Republican"-"Morning Paper," August 17-21, 1934)

November 25th, 1934, marks the twenty-eighth anniversary of the founding of St. Joseph's Italian parish of this city.

It was in 1886, however, that Italians began to settle at Pottsville and vicinity. The Latin population gradually increased and by 1906, there were about sixty Italian families in Pottsville and Palo Alto. Prior to 1904, the Italians of Schuylkill and Carbon counties were to be found, here and there, in small groups. Two Italian Churches existed, one at Kelayres and the other at Little Italy. The rectors of these parishes made several unsuccessful attempts to organize the Italians in the Pottsville zone and to build a church.

It remained for the Rev. Peter Michetti, now having the title of Monsignor, to accomplish the purpose of banding the members of his flock together into a congregation In 1906, the St. John's Church at 4th and Howard Ave., which had been abandoned when the new church was built at 10th and Mahantongo Sts., was rented by the Italian officials and members. Father Michetti, the first rector, and his little flock undertook improvements which soon made the church fit for worship again. The first religious service was held in the reconverted place of worship on Palm Sunday, the same year. The church, dedicated to St. Joseph, was purchased in 1907 and immediately after, the first rectory was built.

In 1908, the Rev. G. DeStefano was assigned to the new parish as an assistant. Nov. 4, 1909, Father Michetti was transferred to Our Lady of Angels Church, in Phila Later, he was made a Monsignor and became a Canon in St. Peter's Bassilica at Rome, Italy, the land of his birth.

With the departure of Father Michetti, the full spirited directorship of St. Joseph's Church, with all its dependent communities, devolved upon Father DeStefano, who has faithfully, loyally and indefatigably discharged the duties of rector ever since.

During 1913, the interior of the church was renovated. The walls and ceiling were decorated and the statues were retouched. A great public demonstration marked the completion of the work on July 4th following the blessing and dedication by the Rt. Rev. Bishop McCort. Many Italians from all parts of the anthracite region participated in the parade which marked the demonstration.

Little Italy was among the important missions of St. Joseph's Church, dependent upon the Pottsville parish, after the departure of Father Gentile, which had served it. Father DeStefano enlarged the field activities, but the growth of Little Italy made it imperative that it be established as an independent parish. During 1913, Father Labella was placed in charge.

Preparing to leave Little Italy, Father DeStefano took up plans to give the Italians of Minersville a church of their own. At a mass meeting on July 23, 1913, it was decided to build the church and it was dedicated to Santa Barbara, the first service in it being held on Christmas Day. The Rev. Joseph Landolfi was named as initial rector of the new church in 1924.

Marble altars, procured by Father DeStefano, while he was visiting sights and scenes of his boyhood days in Italy were installed in St.

Joseph's Church during 1926, being dedicated on the 25th anniversary of his dedication to the priesthood.

In 1908 Father Heinen dedicated the Italian cemetery, at Hillside. During 1921, it was improved by a substantial wall.

Seven years later a Calvary group monument was placed in the cemetery.

Many Activities

Activities of St. Joseph's parish are many. An Educative Circle was organized in January of 1910. November, 1915, instruction was started for an Italian band, G. Martucci, of the Minersville Band, being in charge. In February of the next year, Prof. Burri continued the development of the musical organization.

The Italian-American Citizens' Union was next organized. After brief existence these promising organizations became defunct. In 1907, the Union of Sacred Heart of Jesus was organized. It is still active and flourishing. On July 26, 1916, the League of Italian Mothers was established under the protection of St. Anne. The boys of the congregation were organized into the Battalion of St. Joseph in 1910. The girls were organized as the Children of Mary and participated in a reception conducted during August, 1910. In 1909, Father DeStefano taught the Sunday School. The enrollment increased to such an extent that, after the lapse of a score of years, fourteen teachers were necessary to aid the Rector in carrying on the work.

The Holy Name Society was organized in 1927. Two years later it became affiliated with the Order of the Sons of Italy. In America under the name of "Santo Nome Di Gesu," No. 1523. But a few months after the initiation of the Santo Nome, women and girls became members of the Order and adopted "Santa Madre Maria" as the name of their Lodge. On Labor Day, 1931, more than one hundred men were enrolled into a Holy Name Society, as an integral part of the universal organization, the Holy Name Society, of St. Joseph's Church having previously become affiliated with the Order of the Sons of Italy.

During Lent, 1929, the Union of Prayer was organized. A flourishing organization is the Leone XIII, under the direction and protection of Father DeStefano, participating and aiding, financially, in all activities, whether religious or civil. In 1901, with the organization of this Society was established the Amor Fraterno which has always assisted and participated in colonial activities.

Since the purchase of the first church property, the boundaries of St. Joseph's parish have spread out. The premises now occupy a great portion of the block, on Howard Ave., between Third and Fourth Sts., running back to Schuylkill Ave. The parish also includes valuable properties in other portions of the city.

Famous Painting In Church

The interior of St. Joseph's Church was finished by famous painters, the Italian touch of rare art being displayed in all its beauty The altar is a masterpiece such as Italian artists, alone, can produce. It is a supremely beautiful work of art in the interior of this quaint old stone place of worship which has been most admirably brought up to the status of the most modern of edifices considering its size and the population of the parish.

During the able regime of Father DeStefano, St. Joseph's Church has

many times demonstrated its influence through the activities of the worthy rector and his supporting officials. With such championship the parish has prospered religiously, financially and socially. The growth of the numerical strength of the parish has been most gratifying to Father DeStefano and the members of his church as well as to the rectors and people of other parishes, in the state, who watched its splendid progress.

Natives of Italy, many of Father DeStefano's early people, were unaccustomed to the laws, customs and requirements of the new world. They were frequently rescued from serious litigation in which some of them became involved. When unscrupulous persons took advantage of them, their beloved rector, by his care and guidance, restored them to lives of happiness and contentment. He has the gratification of finding the descendants of members of his parish figuring in prominent business and professional careers. Sons of the first parishioners occupy places of honor in this and other communities.

Father DeStefano takes pride in his rectory, a new building of brick, erected after a most attractive design. It is finished, throughout, in a most elaborate manner answering every requirement for which it was built. The rector selected the plans and directed the construction of the building.

Dedicate Recreation Hall

The most conspicuous improvement, since the parish was established, is the new parish recreation hall which was dedicated on Thanksgiving Day, on the twenty-fifth anniversary of this first congregation of Italians being brought together in this community. Simplicity and sturdiness mark the construction of the building. It is built of red brick, with granite pillars in front which add beauty and break the monotony of an all red brick facade.

The new recreation hall fronts on Howard Avenue, 44 feet, and extends to a depth of 78 feet, toward Schuylkill Ave. There are two stories providing a basement or first floor and an auditorium. Entrance to the first floor is directly off Howard Ave. through the main doorway which is designed in the modern Grecian type of architecture.

The auditorium is the main part of the building and is the seat of all parish social functions having dimensions, 44 by 60 feet, excluding the stage.

Along the front of the building and the two sides, east and west, is a gallery. The latter dimension constitutes three-quarters the length of the auditorium. On the first floor is a modern fully-equipped gymnasium, for the use of the members of the parish.

Father DeStefano and his parishioners take especial pride in their new cemetery at Hillside that is being developed on lines of decided beauty. In the centre of this sacred plot of ground is a work of art, a monument of Christ on the Cross, with associated figures of the Blessed Mother, St. John and Mary Magdalene.

In the retrospection of epochal events of St. Joseph's parish, the most outstanding event was the formal dedication of the recreation hall, built at a cost of $30,000. This adjoins the rectory and church. The parish was honored by the presence of Cardinal Dougherty who officiated at the dedication. Many visiting priests occupied places in Sanctuary, a large delega-

tion of clergy and laity being in attendance.

The dedication was preceded by a Solemn High Mass, celebrated in the church, which was crowded to capacity. The officiating clergymen were: The Revs. M. Pastori, rector of the Sacred Heart Church, of Phila., celebrant; A. Angelino, rector of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church, of Shenandoah, deacon; and Jos. Landolfi, rector of St. Barbara Church, of Minersville, sub-deacon The Rev. Jos. Cavanaugh, curate of St. Patrick's, was Master-of-Ceremonies.

At the dedicatory services of St. Joseph's Church, on July 4, 1913, there officiated: The Rt. Rev. John J. McCort, auxiliary bishop, of Phila., assisted by the rector, Father DeStefano, rector of St. Joseph's, Pottsville; the Rev. F. J. McGovern, rector of St. Patrick's, Pottsville; the Rev. Jos. A. Whitaker, rector of St. Stephen's, Port Carbon; and other clergymen.

Bishop McCort presided at the Solemn High Mass which was celebrated immediately after the services of dedication. The officers of the mass were: The Rev. Peter Michetti, of Phila., assisted by the Rev. Thos. Attenni, of Mahanoy City, as celebrant; the Rev. M. J. Steinhagen, of St. John's, Pottsville, deacon; the Rev. Thos. L. Clooney, of St. Patrick's, Pottsville, sub-deacon; the Rev. Jos. A. Whitaker, of St. Stephen's, Port Carbon, master-of-ceremonies. The sermon was delivered by the Rev. Eugene Marchetti, of Reading. Father DeStefano had charge of all the arrangements.

At the close of the parade, Father DeStefano presided at a mass meeting, in Union Hall, which was attended by the Bishop. On behalf of the Boys' Battalion, Chas. Portland, Jr., presented the prelate with a beautiful floral bouquet. Addresses were made by the Bishop and Rev. F. J. McGovern and G. DeStefano and Tony Longetta.

In token of appreciation of his service to the people of the Little Italy parish, near Nesquehoning, at a testimonial banquet, the mission congregation presented Father DeStefano with a beautiful gold cross.

In 1911, as a tribute to the memory of the Italian solders who were killed and wounded in the battles with the Turks, in and about Tripoli, a demonstration was held at Pottsville, in which 500 Italians, members of the several patriotic and religious societies, composed, entirely, of Italians, participated.

Minersville Church Dedicated

During 1914, Columbus Day was observed and the new St. Barbara's Italian Roman Catholic Church was dedicated at Minersville. Nearly 100 priests assisted Bishop McCort, who was the officiating prelate.

In 1916 Father DeStefano saw to it that all eligible residents of this city, Mt. Carbon and Palo Alto. were registered and performed their right of franchise. A handsome silk flag of Italy was presented to the Patriotic League of Sch. County by the Italian Ladies' Guild of St. Joseph's parish.

During 1920, St. Joseph's congregation burned the mortgage on the church, in that place of worship, with appropriate ceremonies, at the close of a Tridium.

Featuring 1921, the men of St. Joseph's parish tendered Father DeStefano a splendid testimonial reception and banquet marking his completion of twelve years service as their rector.

Cognizance was taken of the signal service which was given by the rector of St. Joseph's Church in fostering and supporting the Americanization movement.

In 1925, Father DeStefano was the honor guest at an elaborate reception tendered upon his return from a visit to his boyhood home in Italy. There was an elaborate accompanying parade, a mass meeting, and ceremonial followed by a banquet held in Moose Hall at which clergy and lay dignitaries spoke. The male members of the parish presented their beloved rector with an automobile.

In 1926, Italians from all parts of Schuylkill County participated in a colorful procession at Pottsville, on Columbus Day. There were impressive church services and a reception to many societies, followed by a mass meeting and banquet.

Marking 1929 the Rev. Peter Michetti, rector of the St. Donato Italian Church, of Phila., was signally honored by a reception tendered him as a mark of esteem and appreciation for the founding of the parish more than a score of years before. Notable speakers made addresses.

Representatives of the Pottsville parish participated in the Columbus Day parade, reception and banquet at Tamaqua, which was featured by a mass meeting in the Armory in 1929. Father DeStefano was presented by the Civic Club with several fine gifts.

Father DeStefano was the founder of the Italian-American Civic Club of Schuylkill County, which wields a wide influence. It was organized in Sept. 1928.

The Rev. Giovanni D. Stefano was born in S. Nicola Baronia, (Avellino) on May 10, 1879. He was ordained to the priesthood on Dec. 21, 1901. Coming to America, he landed in New York City on Oct. 11, 1907. His arrival in Pottsville was on Aug. 12, 1908. He was made rector of St. Joseph's Church on Nov. 4, 1909.

Mary Queen of Peace Parish 15 Years Old

(From "Pottsville Republican"-"Morning Paper," August 21, 1934)

Due to overcrowding St. Patrick's Catholic Church, and the long distance necessary to worship at St. John's Church, a chapel was contemplated for the people of the northern section of the city, living principally in Fishbach and Jalappa, for a number of years. It did not materialize until 1919, when Cardinal Dougherty, Archbishop of Phila., found it was opportune to establish a separate parish.

After Rt. Rev. Monsignor Jas. Nash, a native of Fishbach, and the Rev. Daniel J. McGettigan, Phila., were appointed to view the territory and make the boundary lines, the new Mary, Queen of Peace Parish was established on Dec. 13, 1919, with headquarters at Fishbach, beginning at Centre and Nichols Sts. There was a mission church at Mt. Laffee. People living north of Nichols St., and those who were inhabitants of New St., and Mt. Laffee, were separated from their mother parish, and a new congregation was formed, with their own rector and parish buildings.

The first rector, the Rev. Geo. W. Shay, a native of Pottsville, and until that time rector of Mary, Star of the Sea Church, at Branchdale, was directed by the Cardinal to assume charge of the new parish and purchase premises suitable upon which the necessary buildings were erected. The Seltzer property, on the east side of Centre St., just below No. 3 cemetery, was purchased, title being secured to a plot of ground extending 200 feet on Centre St., and 265 feet on Temple St., at a cost of nearly $41,000. It contained four large buildings in the front and stables in the rear. A few years later, a plot of ground, on the side of the hill, and now used as a playground for the school children, was added.

Possession of the parish was taken by Father Shay on May 4, 1920, and it was placed under the protection of the Blessed Virgin Mary, with the title of Queen of Peace. A large brick building was occupied as a rectory, and the first floor was converted into a temporary chapel. Mass was celebrated there on week days, and baptisms, weddings and funerals were also conducted in it. On Sunday, one mass was read in the State Armory on Centre St., and another in the public school house at Mt. Laffee.

In the meantime the buildings, in the rear of the property, were converted into a larger chapel. After an investment of $10,000, on Aug 15th, the chapel was ready for occupancy. Monsignor Nash read the first mass, on the anniversary of the Feast of the Assumption. On the same date, the Rev. Patrick J. Dailey, representative of the Archbishop, blessed the new chapel and sang the mass of dedication. The Rev. Daniel S. Conahan, pastor of St. Ambrose Church, of Sch. Haven, preached the dedicatory sermon.

The Rev. Jas. Devine was sent to the new parish, as first assistant to Father Shay, shortly before Christmas in 1920. Within three years, on March 2, 1923, the last of the original debt and also the cost of the chapel was paid. The total cost of the church property, then was $44,089.79. $10,000 was added which represented the cost of the temporary chapel, also paid with the current expenses, at the end of the three year period.

During this time, the Rev. Jas. A Quinn succeeded Father Devine as assistant to the rector. In June 1924. the Rev. Paul A. Lambert became curate and served for three years For the establishment of a parochial school and a convent, the original Seltzer home was remodeled and enlarged accommodations were provided for 200 children. The property at the Temple St. corner was converted into a convent suitable to house ten Nuns. The Sister Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary were placed in charge of the school and four of them, under the directorship of Mother Antoninus, took possession Aug. 19, 1925.

The school opened in September with 150 pupils enrolled. Mother Germanus succeeded Mother Antoninus, in 1928. The enrollment has been now increased to more than 200. These improvements entailed another debt of $40,000 which was almost wiped out in a few years. Improvements were made to the rectory in 1927.

Father Lambert, after three years service in the parish, was transferred to a larger and more important parish and the Rev. Henry D. McPeak succeeded him.

During 1928 construction of the present church was started. On April 11, 1929, Cardinal Dougherty visited Pottsville and laid the cornerstone. The "Ecce Sacerdos Magnus" was chanted by the clergy led by the Revs. Jos. Toye and Owen Donnelly. The Cardinal was assisted by the Rev. Henry Walsh, assistant rector of St. Mary's parish, St. Clair, as deacon; and the Rev. John Foody, assistant rector of St Kieran's parish, Heckscherville, subdeacon. The Rev. Jos. Rhodes assistant rector of Mary Queen of Peace parish, was master-of-ceremonies.

The Rt. Rev. Monsignor Geo. L. Leech, rector of St. Patrick's parish, occupied the place of honor at the right of the altar with the Very Rev Jos. M. Corrigan, of St. Charles Borromeo Seminary, of Overbrook, Phila., and the Rev. Jas. McCloskey, rector of St. Mary's parish, St. Clair, as his deacons. The Cardinal preached a short sermon and then presided at Solemn Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. Other pulpit speakers were Father Dougherty and Father Shay.

It was on the Sunday preceding the cornerstone laying that an 800-pound bell was blessed by Father Shay assisted by Fathers Toye and Foody, the Rev. Jos. Rhodes acting as master-of-ceremonies. One hundred people offered themselves as sponsors and each in succession, tolled the bell after its blessing. The following day the bell was placed in the tower of the church.

On Sunday, August 25, 1929, the new church was formally dedicated the Rt. Rev. Gerald P. O'Hara, Auxiliary Bishop, of Phila., officiating. The ceremonies were directed by the Rev. Jos. Hartley, who succeeded Father Rhodes as new assistant of the parish in 1929. In nine years after the establishment of the new parish, a complete set of buildings had been provided.

Mary Queen of Peace Church is of the Spanish type of architecture. Graceful tile-covered tower and roof, grated windows, twisted columns, stuccoed walls and polychromed terra cotta trimmings all bespeak the castles of Spain. In addition to its seating capacity of 525, on the main floor, there is a gallery which accommodates 200 more. Spacious sacristies, wide aisles, an abundance of light space, imposing entrances and vestibule, tiled and hardwood floors, make it a modern place of worship. A large auditorium in the basement is used for social functions and parish meetings. It is fitted with stage and dressing

rooms, cloak and retiring rooms and has a capacity of 600.

Mt. Laffee Chapel

More than 50 years ago, the Rev. D. I. McDermott celebrated the first mass, for the people of Mt. Laffee, in the old stone school building, at the top of the hill. Since that time, mass was provided for them in the old building, and in later years, in the new frame school building.

Many attempts to build a chapel proved futile. When the new school was erected in 1927, Mrs. Wm. Grace purchased the old stone house, close by, which she turned over for the first chapel. Although plans were considered for remodeling the building, it was ascertained that a new church could be erected for little additional outlay.

Accordingly a fire proof building, of hollow tile and stucco with brick trimmings, was decided upon. It was built of Spanish type of architecture. Its seating capacity is for 250 people. The chapel contains sacristies for priests and altar boys, a spacious gallery on the main floor with a large hall, stage and dressing rooms in the basement.

The cornerstone was laid by Monsignor Nash assisted by the Rev. Francis Siegfried, a native of Pottsville, who held the chair in Philosophy, in the diocesan seminary, at Overbrook. The sermon was delivered by the Rev. Wm. Higgins, chaplain at the Orwigsburg orphanage. The chapel was placed under the patronage of St. Theresa, best known as the "Little Flower of Jesus."

It was dedicated by Father Shay who also sang the first mass in it on Christmas Day, 1927. The chapel, completely furnished, represents an investment of about $25,000. This chapel was honored by Auxiliary Bishop Michael J. Crane, of Phila., who administered the Sacrament of confirmation within its walls on Monday, May 21, 1928.

Bishop Crane officiated at confirmations, in Mary Queen of Peace Church, on Nov. 6, 1922; May 25, 1925; and on May 21, 1928.

The first Catholic wedding took place in the temporary Mary Queen of Peace Chapel, on June 15, 1920, when the contracting parties were Daniel Kelly, of Mt. Laffee, and Miss Florence Brennan, of Jalappa. The first baptism was on May 23, 1920, when Martin Young received the sacrament, the sponsors being John Tray and Mrs. Sadie Hillan. The first funeral was that of Mary Jones who was buried in June 1920.

The Rev. Geo. W. Shay, after the stupendous effort of erecting the church enterprise in his parish, was exhausted in health and went west to Los Angeles, Calif. in June 1932, where he recovered. He came east, on a visit, early in the present summer, and is still here. He occasionally assists in parish work in this vicinity. Father Shay returned to the Pacific Coast before the advent of the rigors of the winter season of 1934.

The Rev. Cornelius Burke succeeded Father Shay as rector, during 1932. The Rev. John V. Brogan has been rector since 1933.

Succeeding Father Hartley, as curate, came the Revs. James Gaffney, in 1931; Thos. M. Byrne, in 1932; and Jos. B. Gibson, in 1934. During the earlier years of the parish, the Rev. David V. Brown, a native of Fishbach, assisted in the services, under Father Shay, although he was not assigned to the local church as curate. He is now identified with the Sacred Heart Church, at Chester.

St. Patrick's First Catholic Church

(From "Pottsville Republican"-"Morning Paper," August 22-25, 1934)

Building of the first local churches started almost simultaneously with the incorporation of the Borough of Pottsville, in 1828. As early as 1824, so little progress had been made with the settlement of the borough site that there were but five houses in the little village known as "John Pott's at the Coal Mine." Itinerant preachers, who traveled on horseback from Philadelphia to Fort Augusta, received salary as little as $64 per year.

Father Boehm was one of these itinerant preachers. He held the first religious service here in the forge of the Greenwood furnace built in 1806. There was no other place to hold it and it was this circumstance that led John Pott, founder of Pottsville, to donate the ground, part of the site of the present Centre St. grammar school building, for a log house to be used for school and church purposes. The few settlers united, had a log-rolling bee, and built the first church, which was non-sectarian.

The first consecrated church in Pottsville was the St. Patrick's Roman Catholic, a small frame building. A lone priest, garbed in his clerical attire, rode horseback every two weeks from along the Susquehanna River, at Milton, traveling eastward, until he reached the then primitive town of Mauch Chunk Here he stopped and, gathering his people together, celebrated Mass Remounting his horse, he rode to the newly-organized little village of Tamaqua. Mass was duly celebrated among the members of his faith. Then he rode into Pottsville once more to perform his clerical office.

Thus it was that the little band of worshippers, while attending Mass, celebrated in a private home here on Oct. 27, 1827, decided to erect a place of worship. They purchased from John Pott a plot of ground situated on the "Mahantongo Road" for $150, said plot "to have erected thereon a church, and a portion to be used as a cemetery." The Missionary, in charge of the project, was the Rev. John Fitzpatrick, appointed by the Rt. Rev. Francis Patrick Kendrick, Administrator and Bishop of Phila.

From rough-hewn logs the first Catholic Church, known as the "Log Church," was built at a cost of $1,000. This was the only consecrated church, between Pottsville and the New York state boundary, on the east, and, likewise, the only church, between Pottsville and the Empire State boundary, on the north.

Its first resident pastor was the Rev. Arthur Wainwright. Prior to that, the Rev. Edw. McCarthy, S. J., made periodical visits from Bally, Berks County, and slept here in a small room within the church.

The primitive church was found too small as early as 1837. Without destroying the old log building, a new church was built to surround it and so it remained until the time came when the new building was about to be completed. Then the old log building was razed and the new one substituted for worship.

Buried Beneath Altar

Father Wainwright was rector at the time. After his death in 1839, his assistant, the Rev. Jas. A. Miller, who had charge of the parish, during the former's illness, remained but a short time. Father Wainwright's body was laid beneath the altar of the church. When the church was leveled, to make room for the present church, in 1901, the remains of the first rector were reinterred beneath the altar of the new church. Burial was made from the rectory then located at the southwest corner of Third and Mahantongo Sts., later known as the property of Dr. C. M. Palmer. The last record made by Father Wainwright was a baptism on Oct. 28, 1838.

Father Wainwright was succeeded by the Rev. E. J. McGinnis, a great temperance advocate. His first baptism was recorded in November, 1839. He served the parish until May, 1843, when he became identified with the Holy Angels' College, at Niagara Falls, N. Y. His assistant at the Pottsville church was the Rev. Hugh Gallagher. Upon his transfer from the Pottsville parish, the Rev. Nicholas Cantwell, another local assistant, was made rector and served from May to Dec. 31, 1843.

It was under the rectorship of Father Maginnis in 1840 that the school building, located at 619 Mahantongo St. was started, being finished in 1848.

However, prior to that time, the school was conducted, in the 200 block, on S. Centre St., near where the old Miller book store did business for many years. When the Mahantongo school was started, the Sisters of St. Joseph conducting it, the school, on S. Centre St., was abandoned.

In Jan. 1844, the Rev. Patrick Donaghue was in charge of the records of the parish and his assistant was the Rev. Philip O'Farrell up to Jan. 1845. Then the Rev. Hugh Fitzsimmons was made rector. He completed the erection of the school building and, together with his brothers, the Rev. Henry Fitzsimmons, who succeeded him, built St. Vincent de Paul's Church, at Minersville, and also assisted in building St. Stephen's Church, at Port Carbon, in 1847. He continued in the service of St. Patrick's parish until 1850.

The Rev. Jeremiah O'Donough, the next rector, served until the early part of 1852. In February of that year, the Rev. Jos .O'Keefe was appointed to St. Patrick's. He built a new rectory on a plot of ground, purchased from Dr. Brady. The present rectory occupies its site. About the same time, the property on the opposite corner of Fourth and Mahantongo Sts., was also bought from Dr. Brady. Father O'Keefe brought into the priesthood, the Revs. Francis Patrick Seigfried and James Nash and the Rt. Rev. Francis Joseph McGovern. Father O'Keefe died and was buried in St. Mary's Cemetery, Phila., about 1860.

It was a year before the Civil War broke out, that the Rev. Nicholas J. Walsh succeeded to the rectorship of the local parish and continued his service until he was appointed to build St. Joachim's Church, at Frankford, Phila., later serving at St. Charles Church, 20th and Christian Sts., in Phila., where his death occurred. He was buried in Phila.

During Father Walsh's local pastorate, he brought the famous Artist Monocasy here to paint the beautiful canvas, "The Crucifixion," besides frescoeing the interior of the church. The painting, when the present church was started, was removed from the wall and cared for until the new place of worship was finished. Then it was given the place of honor behind the altar

where it is seen today in splendid state of preservation. Father Walsh purchased the plot of ground, on N Centre St., which was converted into No. 3 St. Patrick's Cemetery. His labors in Pottsville ceased in 1874.

There succeeded him the Rev. Richard O'Connor, who served but a short time and then was transferred to Tamaqua, exchanging places with the Rev. Thomas Quinn, who, also, remained for but a brief rectorship here. In 1875, he was succeeded by the Rev. John P. McElroy who served only to November of the same year. Father D. I. McDermott was the next rector. He served until October 1877.

In 1877 the Rev. A. J. Gallagher was assigned as rector of St. Patrick's. It was during his regime that the school, at Seventh and Howard Ave., a three-story brick structure, with eleven rooms, was built. His health failed and he was an invalid for five years. His death occurred during April, 1889, at the age of about fifty years. His body was buried in the old Cathedral Cemetery at Phila.

His Dreams Not Realized

The Rev. Wm. A. Duffy was appointed to the rectorship of St. Patrick's in May 1889. He partially completed the project of the erection of the present commodious church during his period of service. On July 12, 1891, the cornerstone was laid. His health failed after the walls had been erected and the roof placed upon the place of worship. His death occurred on Nov. 23, 1892.

While the new church was under construction, St. Patrick's congregation worshipped in Union Hall. Father Duffy was buried beneath the altar of St. Joseph. Rev. Francis J. McGovern, a native of Mt. Carbon, who was serving St. Stephen's congregation at the time of Father Duffy's death, was assigned as rector of St. Patrick's Church on Dec. 1, 1892. He continued the work of building the church.

Though it was not fully finished. in April of that year, temporary sashes and windows were placed, and then Union Hall was abandoned and worship was started in the new church.

At a cost, which, today, would approximate $30,000, the magnificent marble altars were next installed. Then the walls were frescoed and the famous paintings and memorial windows were placed. The new pews followed, then the grand pipe organ, completing a church, the cost of which, at that time, was estimated at $120,000. The exterior of the church was built of Avondale limestone with Indiana limestone window trimmings and lintels.

Such was the rapid growth of the parish that it was necessary, in 1908 to purchase the property, 408 Mahantongo St., known as the annex to St. Patrick's parochial school, in which the primary grades were placed. The remarkable increase in the number of pupils attending the schools of the parish created a necessity for larger playground facilities, and the property of Miss Clarissa McCool, adjoining the school premises, at Seventh and Mahantongo Sts., was purchased adding 75 feet more ground to the plot. This gave a total frontage of 145 feet with a depth of 244 feet.

In 1908, when the rectory was found to be in need of immediate improvements Father McGovern decided to build a new rectory. The present building, at the southeast corner of Fourth and Mahantongo Sts., was erected. The assistants, at St. Patrick's, were the Revs. John J O'Shea, a native of Ireland, ordained in 1919, the Pottsville Church being his first mission, and the Rev. Raymond Campbell, a native of Gordon, who entered the priesthood in May 1921.

St. Patrick's First Monsignor

Father McGovern was honored with the title of Monsignor, on Sept. 14, 1915. His death occurred on June 12, 1923.

Simplicity marked the funeral of Monsignor McGovern. Two hundred priests paid tribute and honor to the memory of the prelate, Cardinal Dougherty presiding at the services. The officers of the Mass were: Rt. Rev. Monsignor Jos. A Whitaker, S. F. L., Chancellor, of Philadelphia, celebrant; the Rev. Elmer Stapleton, deacon; and the Rev. Thomas W. Stapleton, sub-deacon. The Rev. Raymond P. Campbell, first assistant at St. Patrick's. Pottsville, was master of ceremonies.

St. Patrick's next rector was the Rev. W. A. Sullivan, a native of St. Clair, who was transferred from Linwood Heights to the Pottsville charge. He renovated the church. In 1927 he was transferred to St Ann's parish, Phila., where he died in 1930, while serving as its rector.

The Rev. Dr. Edw. L. Gatens was sent to Pottsville in 1927 and took up the duties of rector. He built and opened the new parish grade school and high school. When he was transferred to Phila. Monsignor Geo. L. Leech, the present rector, was assigned to St. Patrick's. on Jan. 24, 1929.

His previous appointment was as secretary to the Apostolic Delegate. at Washington, D. C., with whom he spent four years. Monsignor Leech opened and developed Calvary Cemetery.

In 1931, the Holy Name Union for Schuylkill and Carbon Counties. was formed and Monsignor Leech was appointed its spiritual director. A rally, held in Garfield Square, was attended by thousands. Again there was a rally, at Shenandoah, in 1932. Then it was decided to hold them anually. That of 1933 was held at Tamaqua, and plans were made to conduct the rally of 1934 in Carbon County.

Pottsville Catholic H. S.

The Pottsville Catholic High School is one of the most beautiful in the state. A new grade school was built at the same time it was erected. The building operations were perfected at Seventh and Mahantongo Streets. Cardinal Dougherty, Archbishop of Phila., on Sunday afternoon, Oct. 14, 1928, solemnly blessed the building. The ceremonies of the cornerstone laying were deferred and were conducted simultaneously with the dedication.

The first graduates of the high school numbered nine. In June, 1934, there were forty-two graduates. In 1935 there will be seventy-five in the senior class of the high school and a combined enrollment. of high and grade schools, exceeding 1,000 pupils. The Sisters of St. Joseph, who taught in the earlier grade schools, took charge of the high school on its completion.

Full credit is given to Father Gatens, rector when the new school building was dedicated, for its erection.

The personnel of faculties of the Pottsville Catholic High School and St. Patrick's School, at the time of the dedication, was as follows: High School—The Very Rev. Edw. L. Gatens, A. B., P. R., V. F.; Rev. Jos. F. Toye, A. B., A. M.; Rev. Patrick J Foley, A. B., A. M.; Mother M. Ambrosine, S. S. J., principal; Sister St. Veronica, S. S. J., Sister Stella Joseph, S. S. J., Sister M. Lillian, S. S. J., Sister St. Mildred, S. S. J., Sister Stephen Joseph, S. S. J. Grade School—Mother M. Ambrosine, S. S. J., principal; Sisters Rita Gertrude, Cora Joseph, Rose Bernard, Holy Spirit, Mary Louise, Stella Dolores, Mary Seumis, St. Felix, S. S. J.

The high and grade school building has dimensions 118 feet long

and 62 1-4 feet wide, at the grade school section, and 82 feet wide, at the high school section. It is built of Gothic design in the shape of the letter "T". The exterior is of brick of golden gray color. The floors are of maple with hardwood trimming. There are four entrances from Mahantongo St. and two others from Howard Ave. The auditorium, on the first floor is approached from Mahantongo St. Several short flights of steps, with landings of several feet, lead to it There is a commodious stage and seating capacity for 800. No columns or radiators obstruct or mar the view.

The stage is at the eastern end of the auditorium. There are 12 grade school rooms. In the high school section are eight class rooms, demonstration and work tables, in the science room, a laboratory, commercial room, library and a modern kitchen, modernly-equipped, which serves the two-fold purpose of accommodating the domestic science classes on the first floor.

Hallways are finished in glazed brick to the height of four feet, the remaining height of the corridors being of white plaster.

A perfect ventilating, lighting and electric system is installed.

A pretentious convent is located at the front of the school grounds of the same color of brick as the main building. Beautiful terraces give an attractive effect in front of the school building and also the convent. The building was completed six months after ground was broken.

Calvary Cemetery Opened

Shortly after being established as the new rector, Monsignor Leech opened the Calvary Cemetery during 1929 for burial purposes. The burial plot contains 14 acres and is located at Mt. Carbon. Eventually it will be the main place of interment for this as well as for other parishes. A substantial stone wall was erected and new macadamized roads constructed add beauty to the hallowed place.

Other parish cemeteries are: No. 1—established in October 1827, when the plot of ground, for the purpose, was purchased from John Pott. It still exists although the tombstones in some cases show the erosive effect of many years of exposure to the weather. The little cemetery is in the rear of the church. Members of many prominent first families, of the parish, some of them pioneers of the community, were buried on the plot.

Cemetery No. 2 is located on Howard Ave., from Fourth to Fifth Sts. For many years it has been used for burials. Cemetery No. 3, out N. Centre St., at the bend of the road, is the burial place of thousands of departed members of the parish.

In St. Patrick's parish, a drive for funds for the benefit of the House of Good Shepherds was conducted with such zeal that $13,510 was subscribed. Likewise the annual contribution to orphans amounted to $1,800. The allotment for St. Patrick's, devoted to missionary purposes, amounts to $1,200 annually.

For twenty-eight years, St. Patrick's parish cared for almost 100 families residing in and about Mt. Laffee. In 1920, Archbishop Dougherty divided the parish and the Mary Queen of Peace parish was formed.

Mt. Carbon Chapel Built

For the convenience of 57 families residing in Mt. Carbon, it was decided to build a chapel in that borough and in September, 1921, construction was started. Its seating capacity is 200. The cost decided upon was, approximately, $15,000. The chapel was under the care of the rector and assistants of St Patrick's.

Bishop's Records of Parish

From the records of the first Bishop, an epitome of the history of St. Patrick's parish, is given as follows: The church property was held in the name of the Rev. John Fitzpatrick until Sept. 18, 1836, when, on the occasion of a visit from the Rt. Rev. Francis Patrick Kendrick, Administrator and Bishop of Philadelphia, the Rev. John Fitzpatrick, of Milton, conveyed to the Bishop the title to the ground on which St. Patrick's Church, in Pottsville, is built.

The diary and visitation record of Bishop Francis Patrick Kendrick, from 1830 to 1851, contains: "On Sept. 6, 1830, Bishop Kendrick. went to Pottsville. The Rev. Edw McCarthy, S. J., was assigned to St. Patrick's Church promising to visit the congregation once each month, probably from Bally, Berks County He volunteered to take charge of the parish until the Bishop could find a way to place a priest there to act as rector.

"One hundred Catholic families, at least, are said to be living in this town, which is rising, in importance, in a remarkable way. Most of the families are poor—the families, that is, of working men engaged in digging coal or employed on the canal or on the public roads. It is established that there are nearly 2,000 men engaged in these public works. In this whole region, as far as the boundaries of the state of New York, northward and eastward, there is not one priest.

"Father McCarthy, S. J., visited St. Patrick's Church, at intervals, until 1833. On June 29, 1831, Bishop Kendrick, of Phila., became formally an American citizen. On May 18, 1832, he set out on his journey to Pottsville. On May 20, he confirmed 130 persons, here, in St. Patrick's Church. It was the first time that he administered the Sacrament of Confirmation in Schuylkill Co.

"The Rev. Arthur Wainwright became rector in November 1833. While he had charge, the main structure of the new church was erected. The cornerstone was laid on Sunday, Sept. 24, 1837, and, gradually, the walls of the new building arose between which religious services were held until the old one had to be demolished to complete the new one. The new church was solemnly blessed, by Bishop Kendrick, on Sept. 29, 1839.

"Father Wainwright's successor was the Rev. Jas. A. Miller. In that year, there was a school, in Pottsville, under the care of the Sisters of Charity, who taught about 60 girls free of charge. The rector, then, was the Rev. James A. Miller, a good priest, but, who, on account of worry over the debt of $3,400, on the church, wished to be released of the care thereof.

"On Oct. 9, 1840, the Rev. Hugh Patrick Gallagher was appointed assistant rector. Father Edw. Maginnis was rector at the time. On Sunday, Sept. 4, 1842, Bishop Kendrick confirmed 350 people here; on Sept. 5, 1847, 137 of the congregation; and, on July 22, 1849, 73 members of the parish. Once, again, he confirmed a class on Sept. 14, 1851. but its number is not mentioned.

"It was on July 22, 1849, that Bishop Kendrick visited the House of the Sisters of St. Joseph, who were then living in Pottsville for almost a year. The Pottsville convent was opened on Aug. 28, 1848. They were the first Sisters in charge of a parochial school in Sch. County.

"During the rectorship of the Rev. Jos. Vincent O'Keefe, who was appointed in 1852, the old rectory was built across Fourth St., opposite the church. The most beloved and saintly Father O'Keefe died in St. Patrick's old rectory on July 27, 1860. He was succeeded, during the same year, by the Rev. Nicholas J.

Walsh, who held the rectorship for a period of eleven years. He cleared the church from debt and purchased a new cemetery."

St. Francis Orphanage Undertaken

Upon receipt of information from the Archbishop giving details of a new orphanage to be opened at Orwigsburg, a movement was started in St. Patrick's that proved a most wonderful organization, viz., that of the Ladies' Auxiliary. To prepare the home for the reception of the four Sisters, in charge of the orphanage established, and the care of the 18 children, under their care, the Auxiliary supplied the institution with everything it required from cellar to garret. The organization, alone, contributed $7,000 to the project. The neighboring church parishes also contributed liberally toward the undertaking. The opening of the institution was a most auspicious occasion.

It was the purpose of the promoters of the orphanage to accommodate 500 Catholic children, taken from the Schuylkill and Carbon County parishes. The grounds, surrounding the building, comprise 118 acres, 26 of which have a growth of valuable timber. Aside from the timber and considerable tillable land, there is ample ground for recreational purposes. Springs provide possibilities for artificial lakes and aquatic plants with which to beautify the grounds.

The situation of the Orphanage is one of the beauty spots of Schuylkill County, along the state highway, between Orwigsburg and Schuylkill Haven, having all modern conveniences, such as electric light, telephone, etc. The Lehigh Valley Railroad line, to Lizard Creek, runs along the grounds. Water is furnished by the Orwigsburg Water Co.

It was on Apr. 29, 1921, that the Sisters took charge of the first building, a reconverted farm house, across the highway, to the south, from the new orphanage. On May 10, 1921, there were five Sisters and 18 children transferred from Phila. institutions. At the present time, the institution is in charge of 16 Sisters, who have the care of 209 children.

On Dec. 5, 1921, the funeral of Nellie DeLong, 10 years old, was held from the orphanage. Father Hayden conducted a requiem high mass in the chapel of the institution. Burial was made in the orphanage cemetery. This was the first child of the early group of orphans to die.

On Sept. 26, 1921, the Schuylkill County Court issued a charter for the St. Francis Orphan Asylum. Cardinal Dougherty headed the Board of Directors, with Monsignors Crane and Fisher, of Phila., and McGovern, of Pottsville, and the following regional clergy: The Revs. P. C. McEnroe, of Mahanoy City; F. W. Longinus, of Pottsville; J. P. Nealy, of Girardville; T. J. Larkin, of Mauch Chunk; H. J. Bowen, of Lansford, and J. B. Devers, of Shenandoah. The lay members of the Board named were: John F. Whalen, Esq., and J. J. Moran, Esq., of Pottsville; M. A. Kilker, of Girardville; J. J. Coyle and Anthony Monaghan, Mahanoy City; M. P. Quinn, formerly of Pottsville, of Overbrook, and Jos. Cleary, of Phila.

Six thousand Catholics of Pottsville and many other towns of Schuylkill and Carbon Counties were present at the dedication, which was conducted on Columbus Day, Oct. 12, 1921, by the Cardinal, who presided, in the presence of many clergy.

Epochal were the exercises, which were fittingly opened with Solemn High Mass. The celebrant was Monsignor Francis J. McGovern, of Pottsville, with the Revs. Lawrence A. Fahey and Frederick W. Longinus as deacons of honor. Rt. Rev. Dr. Michael J. Crane, Auxiliary to His Eminence, was attended by the Revs. Francis X. Wastl and John J. Mellon. The Rev. John P. Mealey was the deacon of the Mass, and the Rev. John B. Dever, subdeacon. The music of the Mass was rendered by an augmented mixed choir of 200 voices, Miss Nan Mudey, of St. Patrick's, presiding at the organ. Millard's Mass was a part of the program.

The new orphanage has a value of $815,000. Toward this cost, St. Patrick's parish contributed more than $30,000, over-subscribing its quota. The new building was completed on Nov. 1, 1929.

The original orphanage was a two and one-half story building. The building which now houses the orphans was constructed of reinforced concrete to the third floor line. The third floor and roof framing is of structural steel, properly fire-proofed. The exterior was constructed of brick, with limestone trimmings. The roof is of slate, with copper cornices and flashings. The east wing on the ground floor, consists of a girls' play room, locker room, shower room and lavatory. The west wing, for boys, includes play room, locker room, etc., a replica of that of the east wing.

The wing, northward, also on the first floor, is used for a boiler room, laundry, vegetable storage, refrigerator room, male help, dining room and receiving room.

The first floor, west wing, carries the main dining room, two private dining rooms, kitchen, pantry, refrigerator and storage rooms.

The main building has six class rooms, an office, parlor, visitors' rooms, dining room, and priest's apartments. Entrance to the floor is by a granite terrace and steps, lobby and vestibule, with corridors, marble steps and a terrazza floor.

In the east wing is a chapel, sanctuary and sacristy. Three girls' dormities, community room, 14 bedrooms, three lavatories, three bath rooms, two wash rooms, linen and mending rooms constitute the second floor. On the third floor is a hospital ward. The west wing contains two nursery rooms, a doctor's office, dentist's office, boys' infirmary, girls' infirmary, diet kitchen, milk laboratory, infants' bath room, two private bed rooms, linen and storage rooms. Two boys' dormitories, two wash rooms, two bed rooms and two private lavatories are provided in the main building and east wing.

It was a little more than six years, prior to ground being broken for the present orphanage, that the original St. Francis Orphanage was established. This was done by converting the old mansion, on the Hartman farm, for the purpose. The building is surrounded by spacious acres. Alterations and improvements were made so that, for the first years of its existence, it fulfilled all requirements. However, with the increase of children to be sheltered, for some time prior to ground being broken for the new institution, it was found inadequate, and the new building was an absolute necessity.

Immaculate Heart Academy

By indenture of Aug. 7, 1924, John L. Malone, of Shenandoah, transferred to Cardinal Dougherty, a large tract of land in Fountain

Springs, between Ashland and Frackville, containing 96 acres, 40 perches strict measure, and being part of Lot No 16, and all of Lot No. 17, in Butler Township.

His Eminence decided to assign it to educational uses. Hence his request to Mother M. Loyola that the Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, accept this valuable tract of land, and build thereon an academy.

Accordingly, by indenture of Nov. 15, 1924, the entire tract was transferred to the "Convent of the Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary," to have and to hold the said lot or piece of ground above described, with the buildings and improvements thereon erected ....to use and to occupy the premises above described as an educational institution or academy for youth.

Ground was broken for the new academy, May 25, 1925, by Rt. Rev. Monsignor Thos. F. McNally, and the buildings were completed in 1927. The main difficulty under consideration at this time, a difficulty which had caused delay in the transportation of the building materials to the academy, was the distance from any highway, but while the building was in course of construction, the new state highway between Frackville and Ashland, the main artery of traffic between Pottsville and Northwestern Schuylkill County, was projected and surveyed. It was actually completed before the dedication day of the academy, Sept. 11, 1927. By indenture dated Sept. 10, 1927, Frank O'Neill, of Fountain Springs, conveyed to the academy .73 acres, to be used as roadway to the state highway.

Thousands gathered to witness the laying of the cornerstone, and the solemn dedication of the Academy of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, by Cardinal Dougherty. After the dedication, the building was open for inspection until late evening, and all marveled at its perfection of detail, providing, as it does, for convent purposes, residence halls, class rooms, laboratories and recreation rooms, library, lavatories, auditorium and gymnasium, a spacious chapel, chaplain's apartments, kitchen and dining rooms, laundry and complete power house.

During the brief seven years of its existence, the building has come to be known in the district as "The Academy" (absolute) a center of culture and refinement, a home of social and ethical and religious, as well as scholastic training. The various departments of the Academy have developed very steadily in spite of the very evident effects of unemployment in the surrounding district, due in great measure to the closing of the mines. On Apr. 14, 1931, a short three years after its inauguration, the high school was accredited by the Department of Public Instruction at Harrisburg.

Aside from its educational uses during the school term from Sept. to June, the Academy has been utilized during the summer months as an Extension School from Immaculata Chapel, which extension school furnishes instructions to the various Sisters of the Order. Too, each year after the close of regular classes, the Catholic Laymen's Retreat League, sponsored by Monsignor George Leech, holds its annual week-end retreat at the Academy.

While the Academy was originally instituted for the education of girls, the faculty has recently accepted boys as day pupils for the elementary grades.

Knights of Malta Own Fine Home

(From "Pottsville Republican"-"Morning Paper," August 27-29, 1934)

The ancient and illustrious Order Knights of Malta, who base their traditions on the Crusaders of old, are represented by two organizations in Pottsville, Schuylkill Commandery No. 202 and Black Diamond Commandery, No. 466.

One of the chief accomplishments of the Maltas was acquiring the Malta Home, on West Market St., and establishment of the Malta Foundation.

But going back to their early history, Schuylkill Commandery was instituted on Oct. 7th, 1896, with thirty-six charter members. The Commandery owes its institution to the efforts of Wilson F. Weisner and hard work of several of the members of the Hiker Club.

Mr. Weisner secured data pertaining to the Knights of Malta and aroused general interest in the order. A meeting was held in the P. O. S. of A. hall, then at 2nd and Market Sts., in the Baird Building, and temporary officers were elected.

This led to the institution of the Lodge, with the following officers: Sir Knight Commander, W. W. Brown; Generalissimo, John H. Kaiser; Capt. General, Lewis Heckman; Prelate, John Hooper, Jr.; Recorder, Frank M. Miles; Asst. Recorder, Harry Kaiser; Treasurer, Frank Kaiser; Senior Warden, James Heffner; Junior Warden, Lewis A. Graeff; Standard Bearer, Wm. Dicus; Sword Bearer, Adam R. Deisher; Warden, Geo. Lewis; Sentinel, James Graeff; First Guard, Harry Eckenrode; Second Guard, Wm. W. Allen.

The charter members: C. E. Swan, Wm. Dicus, W. W. Reed, Harry Kaiser, Frank Kaiser, H. E. Bader, Fred Bader, W. F. Weisner, Geo. B. Sterner, John Diener, W. W. Brown, L. A. Graeff, Frank M. Miles, Chas. Huppert, Firman Borden, G. H. Eckenrode, Geo. E. Lewis, Samuel E. Lewis, H. L. Hawley, Guy M. Eckenrode, J. Graeff, Geo. D. Shock, C. E. Beyerle, I. Zimmerman, E. W. Brown, W. W. Allen, A. H. Deisher, John H. Kaiser, C. H. Roth, Ellick Reed, R. Hooper, Jr., Edgar Clouser, Lewis Heckman, Chas. L. Kline. Jas. Sterner, James Heffner.

When the Commandery of Pennsylvania was entertained during May of 1915, Schuylkill Commandery No. 202, with the new organization, Black Diamond Commandery No. 466, collaborating, meeting in Pottsville, an executive committee, of which Chas. G. Reed was president, Wm. S. Brobst, Secy., and Walter W. Hagerty, Treas., was named. The other members were: James R. Walton, first vice president; Wm. N. Shalters, second vice president; Chas. H. Ramsey, assistant secretary.

Harry Haak, Chas. H. Grabey and Chas. E. Alter were appointed as a press committee. A. H. Rohrer, Walter Hagerty, Jas. R. Walton, Aaron Sinton, Lewis Wilson and Wm. N. Shalters were named as a hotel committee. Wm. Dicus, S. B. Edwards, A. H. Rohrer, Geo. Imschweiler, John Lennox, Chas. H. Ramsey and Albert Follett served as a reception committee.

The general committee comprised: Chas. G. Reed, Wm. S. Brobst, Geo. W. Zeh, Irvin C. Koch, John Lennox, Geo. Eckert, Herbert C.

Horn, A. H. Rohrer, Lewis I. Bast, Wm. N. Shalters, Wm. Dicus, Foster B. Rowe, Albert Follett, Thos. Meikrantz, Chas. H. Grabey, William T. Bowle, Harry Haak, John C. Griesel, Edw. Berger, Aaron Sinton, S. Burd Edwards, Esq., Thos. Lutz, Adam Pfeffer, Wm. H. Warmkessel, Geo. Davies, Daniel Kenney, Lewis Wilson, Geo. Imschweiler, Geo. Achenbach, Wm. P. Lohr, Jas. R. Walton Chas. H. Ramsey, Robert Lengel, Wm. Yost, Calvin Staudt, W. J. W. Stauffer, Walter W. Hagerty, Clinton B. Reed and Harry Butz.

The membership of these committees embraced representation of both Commanderies. Their elaborate stationery, carried a cut of the Hotel Allan, predecessor of the Necho Allen Hotel, and also one of the court house.

Schuylkill Commandery occupied the Lee building for a few years, and then moved to the Gellert and Gellert building.

Purchased A Home

The Knights of Malta, having purchased the residence of Dr. A. L. Gillars, formerly the home of the late Colonel Wm. Thompson, on W. Market St., announced, on Jan. 28, 1922, that they would remodel the building so that it could be made suitable for a lodge home, intending to occupy it during April.

Ample room was afforded by the alterations which were made, from time to time, for the accommodation of every Knights of Malta organization in the city, embracing both Commanderies; Lemnos Siesta "77", Princes of Bagdad, a whimsical side issue of Maltaism; and Dorcas Sisterhood No. 7, a woman's auxiliary to the order. All but the Princes of Bagdad have made it their home ever since.

A structure of three stories, the basement, or first story front, has a fine store room on the street level. On the same floor, to the rear of the store room, approached via a spacious hallway, from the main entrance, are modern bowling alleys.

There is a spacious hall and social room on the second floor with a paraphernalia room, in the rear The third floor is fitted up as lodge rooms.

At a meeting of the Knights, on Tuesday, Feb. 7th, 1922, the Malta Realty Association was organized for the purpose of taking over and managing the new home. The officers chosen were: Pres., Wm. L. Stevenson; Vice Pres., Geo. Snyder, Secy., Wm. Singer.

Feb. 24th, 1922, the Malta Realty Co. received the deed for the property, $27,000 being paid in full for it and the deed recorded. Both Schuylkill Commandery and Black Diamond Commandery are represented in the Malta Realty Co.

Then there was a substantial addition built, to the rear of the original property, which enlarged the real estate holdings of the Maltas to a combined structure having dimensions 30 by 115 feet.

The Knights of Malta opened their new home which included the later rear addition on Tuesday evening, April 26, 1927, with an elaborate banquet when prominent national and state officers and other dignitaries were in attendance. The home is controlled by a committee of ten members known as the Malta Home Association. The officers are: Geo. D. Eckert, President; Thos. D. Butts, Secretary; and Jas. R. Walton, Treasurer.

Schuylkill Commandery named the following officers who are serving during the ensuing term: Sir Knight Commander, Thos. J. Butts; Generalissimo, Chas. Kirkley; Captain General, Harold Butts; Recorder, Geo. L. Zeh, Past Commander; Treasurer, Wm. T. Bowle, Past Commander; and Trustees, A. W. Follett. Geo. D. Eckert and Wm. L. Stevenson. The Commandery meets every Wednesday night.

Black Diamond Instituted

Black Diamond Commandery, No. 466, was instituted on June 18, 1914. A preliminary meeting was held, for purpose of organizing, in the Malta Hall, Lee Building, with 14 members present. It was presided over by Past District Commander A. H. Rohrer, assisted by Sir Chas. Grabey, of Pottsville, and Sir L. I. Bast, of Schuylkill Commandery No. 202, when temporary officers were elected.

Upon a name being voted upon, "Black Diamond" received the largest number of ballots, on May 21, 1914. A special convocation of the Grand Commandery was held in Union Hall, on June 18th, for the purpose of instituting the Black Diamond Commandery.

The following officers were installed: Sir Knight Commander, Dr. Merchant C. Householder; Generalissimo, Sir Walter Hagerty; Capt. Gen., Sir Wm. H. Warmkessel; Prelate, Sir. Theo. V. Geissler; Recorder, Sir Chas. H. Ramsey; Asst. Recorder, Sir Clinton B. Reed; Treas., Sir Geo. D. Davies; Senior Warden, Sir Thos. A. Lutz; Junior Warden, Sir Walter W. Fegley; Standard Bearer, Sir Geo. W. B. Achenbach; Sword Bearer, Sir Robt. M. Thompson; Warden, Sir S. B. Edwards; First Guard, J. R. Walton; Second Guard, Sir Adam E. Peifer.

The preliminaries to institution of the commandery were in charge of Sir Knight A. H. Rohrer, of Schuylkill Commandery No. 202, then Deputy Grand Commander in this district. Recorder Ramsey, the first official to fill that important berth, served for 14 years. He was honored as the first Past Sir Knight without having actually served the time which it has taken ever since to get it. Ramsey was succeeded by Harold G. Snyder, who has held the office to the present time.

Black Diamond Commandery, soon after its institution, had a charter membership of 135. This has been increased to 160, its present numerical strength.

Flourishing, the Commandery grew in membership. It was organized in the former quarters of Schuylkill Commandery, on the top floor of the Lee Building, corner of Second and Market Sts., just after the former organization moved into other rooms on the top floor of the Gellert & Gellert Building. These quarters were retained until they moved into the Malta Home.

During the first year after the Commandery organized, on May 15th. it with Schuylkill Commandery No. 202, jointly, entertained the Grand Commandery of Pennsylvania. This was the regular state convention, and it was attended by the leading national and state officers of the order. All of the Commandery meetings were conducted, at that time, in the parish house of Trinity Episcopal Parish. The Grand Lodge sessions were also held there.

The visiting officers, who represented the most eminent representatives of Maltaism, were entertained at the old Hotel Allan. They filled all the available guest rooms. During the session of the Grand Lodge, the city was crowded with visitors daily.

It is estimated that there were served 3,000 Malta representatives, including officers of high and low degree, with free meals, at the Malta headquarters in the Gellert & Gellert Building, and also in the Commandery's own quarters.

Featuring the big Malta parade, a women's drilling club, numbering 80 members, accompanied the

Wilkes-Barre Malta delegation, and made a big hit.

During recent years, the St. Clair Commandery disbanded, its membership being merged with Black Diamond Commandery.

The present officers of Black Diamond Commandery are: Sir Knight Commander, Wilbur Kenney; Generalissimo, Edward Gehring, of St. Clair; Captain General, Andrew Botts, of St. Clair; Prelate, J. R. Walton; Recorder, Harold G. Snyder, now serving for his fifth consecutive term; Assistant Recorder, Harry Hoffman, of St. Clair; Treasurer, Wm. Paton; Trustees, J. R. Walton, Harry Kinzey and Andrew Botts.

Sisterhood Organized

Nearly twenty-two years ago, Dorcas Sisterhood No. 7, was organized. This body wherever it is established, is looked upon as an auxiliary of the Knights of Maltas. The Sisterhood, while it does cooperate at times, with the Maltas, in their functions, in much the same manner as auxiliaries of other orders participate, is in reality an independent body.

The Dorcas Sisterhood is one of the most active of the organizations that meet in Malta Hall. It was instituted on Dec. 2, 1912. The charter membership was 88. Today, it has about 170 members.

The first officers elected, while the charter rolls were still open: Past Protector, Mrs. Kate Warmkessel; Queen, Mrs. Masura Eckert, who has served, in a varied capacity on the official staff ever since the Sisterhood was instituted, is a charter member, and still active in the organization; Ruth, Miss Gertrude Martin; Naomi, Miss Elizabeth Bowle; Burser, Mrs. Mary Brenneman; Keeper of the Archives, Mrs. Jennie Wertley; and Herald, Mrs. Jennie Lee.

In the Sisterhood the Maltas have always had ready and powerful support. Through all the years of activities in local Malta circles they have aided financially and in every other way.

From time to time they have entertained the supreme and state officials and, in the officers who have served the Sisterhood, there has been represented a high type of the general membership personnel. Right hand support has been derived from the efficient organization through the entire period of its existence.

Allied branches of the Sisterhood, throughout Schuylkill and contiguous counties, have always found the Pottsville organization hospitable. As entertainers the members of the Pottsville organization gained a reputation that made visitations to the Schuylkill County seat more than usually pleasant ones. Trolley parties, many outstanding picnics and outings and varied forms of entertainment were given delegations from a number of similar organizations through the state. Today Dorcas Sisterhood is one of the real "live wire" branches of eastern Pennsylvania.

The present officers of the Sisterhood are: Protector, Mrs. Elizabeth Donkin; Queen, Miss Mary Moyer; Ruth, Mrs. Christine Newton; Naomi, Mrs. Emma Super; Herald, Mrs. Ella Gillars; Deputy Herald, Mrs. Bessie Moore; First Color Bearer, Mrs. Anna Gordon; Second Color Bearer, Mrs. Mary Hauser; Keeper of the Archives, Mrs. Masura Eckert; Assistant Keeper of the Archives, Mrs. Millie Parton, Burser, Mrs. Clara Bergeman; Outside Guardian, Mrs. Kate Evans; Inside Guardian, Mrs. Elsie Berger; First Messenger, Mrs. Mary Waters; Second Messenger, Mrs. Alice Jeffreys; Musician, Mrs. Florence Kissinger; Trustees, Mrs. Kate Wolf, Mrs. Ella Corby, and Mrs. Gertrude Fernsler.

Dorcas Sisterhood was last honored by a visiting official, from the supreme Zenodacia, on July 30th. 1934. It was Mrs. Mary McCoomb of Wheeling, West Va., who holds the title of Sovereign Protector, the highest office in the Sisterhood organization. She was accorded royal entertainment not only by the Pottsville organization but by the other subordinate organizations in Schuylkill and Carbon Counties. At Lansford she was the honored guest of Mrs. Ella McMichael, who is the present active Deputy for this district.

The Pottsville organization elects to its membership every type of fine womanhood, it not being so essential that she be a relative of a Knight of Malta. Some of the Sisterhoods, however, in other parts of the state, require that to qualify for membership the candidate must be the mother, wife or sister of a Knight of Malta.

Princes of Bagdad

Lemnos Siesta, "77", Princes of Bagdad, the fun-making branch of Maltaism, was organized in Pottsville about 1910. It started out with a charter membership of more than three score. At the height of its career its numerical strength was more than 500.

Along about 1927, its membership dropped off to such an extent that former members and representatives of Maltaism, generally, regarded it as having gone out of existence. But older representatives would not regard it as defunct and several times since then they have held meetings and endeavored to bring about its revival.

It is the general opinion of the Sir Knights that when the Siesta starts to properly function, again, with "live wires" among its membership, there will be added much strength and influence to Maltaism. This branch and the other organizations of the Knights of Malta, as was true of the regular run of fraternal lodges, felt the affect of the increasing popularity of automobiles which carried men away, after they had supper, upon return from their daily labors, to such an extent that there was a steady decrease in attendance because motoring absorbed much of the interest which would, otherwise, have been given to bolstering up the Princes of Bagdad.

It was Past Commander Wm. N. Shalters, returning from attendance at a Grand Commandery session at Bethlehem, who first fostered the Princes of Bagdad for Pottsville. Through his activities a prosperous Siesta was soon established and, very properly, he became the initial Scratcher. The first Sultan was Marion Hemple, painter artist, of Pottsville.

Lemnos Siesta was made a central organization, for the Schuylkill County district, and members were recruited from St. Clair, Haven Commandery, of Sch. Haven; Bethel Commandery, of Orwigsburg; Tamaqua and Lansford.

Decidedly picturesque prove the Princes of Bagdad. Its costuming is essentially oriental and lavishly ornamental. While the Knights of Malta were caparisoned and clad in coat of mail and uniforms copied after the age of the Crusaders, those of the Princes of Bagdad are an imitation of the wide flowing trousers and extravagant dress of the Turks.

The title officers of the organization are: Sultan, Oriental Guide, Grasper, Dervish, Scratcher, Khatib, Pasha, Caliph, Captain of the Mammalukes, etc.

Active in the Siesta, from its inception, were: Wm. N. Shalters, Jas. R. Walton, Chas. H. Grabey, A. H. Rohrer, Chas. N. Hunter, Lewis I. Bast, now of Pottstown, and many others.

Initiation of novitiates is referred to as the "purification of the vile scum of the earth."

During 1912, Lemnos Siesta paid a fraternal visit to Tadmore Siesta, at Reading. On this trip a delegation of more than 300 were carried. At various times, special sessions, conducted under the auspices of the Princes of Bagdad, were held at St. Clair, Tamaqua, Lansford, Sch. Haven and at other points where good-sized classes were initiated. Trips, by delegations of Lemnos Siesta, were also made to Reading, Harrisburg, Easton and Pittsburgh.

In 1914, Siesta "77" established themselves as a social organization having well appointed quarters in the old F. B. Bannan building on South Centre St. The second floor was occupied for this purpose. After a year's stay, the organization moved to the I. L. Rubinsky building, near the corner of Centre and Market Sts. The social activities of the Siesta were conducted there for three years until it moved, with the other Malta organizations, to the new Home on W. Market St.

Notable among the outstanding occasions in the annals of Lemnos Siesta, was that when they sent a large delegation, occupying a special car, via the Pennsylvania Railroad, to Dubois, Pa., where the state convention was held. Wm. H. Warmkessel was Sultan of the Siesta, at that time.

Another great event was the initiation of a large class at Tumbling Run. The ceremonial was attended with full regalia, costume and ritual and it was put on in the vaudeville theatre pavilion. Chas. N. Hunter was then the Sultan.

The personnel of officers, who occupied the chairs when the Siesta last met, was: Sultan, J. R. Walton, who officiated in that capacity for more than a dozen years; Visier, or Captain of the Mamalukes, Geo. Eckert; Oriental Guide, Wm. Bowle; Grasper, A. H. Rohrer.

The Dervish was Aaron Tovey, who filled the role, for many years, needing no special makeup because of his natural luxuriant white hair and whiskers, his death occurring at the age of 84 years; Scratcher, Geo. W. Zeh; Khatib, John Bound; Pasha, Harry Redka; Caliph, Geo. W. Zeh; Wm. N. Shalters, floor manager, who, with Wm. H. Warmkessel, Harry G. Mellon and Geo Haines were active members of the degree team; and David P. Brown. bandmaster or conductor. The latter organized the whimsical Drum Corps of the Siesta. They were gorgeously and resplendently outfitted, their extravagant costumes attracting as much attention as did their martial music.

German Catholics Formed Parish in 1840

(From "Pottsville Republican"-"Morning Paper," Aug. 30-Sept. 1, 1934)

The German speaking Catholics of Pottsville and vicinity formed the St. John the Baptist parish in the year 1840.

Prior to that year, the Rev. Nicholas Steinbacher, S. J., who had charge of a small parish of German-speaking Catholics at Reading, came to Pottsville once every month to read mass in the basement of the original St. Patrick's Roman Catholic Church. These services continued until, on one of his trips, Father Steinbacher's horse broke its leg and this made it necessary for the priest to discontinue his visits because there was no means of transportation.

But, even before this time, the German Catholics had not been satisfied with the monthly worship and had expressed a desire to attend mass every Sunday. Although St. Patrick's Church was, at that time considered a large church, it was too small to accommodate the Catholic parishioners and the German Catholics had to be glad when they were able to stand or kneel in the vestibule of the church.

On a certain Sunday, in 1840, Henry Ackerman and Jacob Dusch wished to attend mass but, owing to the crowded conditions, were unable to get into the service. It was then that the idea of building a church for German Catholics was conceived.

On Aug. 19, 1840, a meeting was held at the Dusch home, with 12 men being present. It was decided to buy the plot at the southeast corner of Howard Ave. and Fourth Sts. for $350. The mountain stone church still stands there and is now used by St. Joseph's congregation.

At a meeting held on Aug. 24th, a motion was made by Nicholas Selgrath to select St. John the Baptist as the patron saint of the new church. This was seconded by Henry Ackerman and unanimously adopted.

Those present were: Nicholas Selgrath, Henry Ackerman, Anth. Redelberger, Anthony Garner, Frank Reith, the Dusch Bros., Francis Alstaat, Lawrence Fischer, Jacob Buch, Jos. Klein, John Scheibelhut, Peter Fletcher, John Becker, Ferdinand Bodefeld, Ignatius Gaertner, Frank Ackerman, Clement Ackerman, Peter Woll, Caspar Balzer, Peter Ochs and the Buehler Bros.

There were only twenty-seven families and few single men, of German origin, who were interested in building a church. They were much scattered, living in Pottsville, Crow Hollow, on Peach Mountain, at Mt. Laffee, Minersville, Port Carbon, St. Clair, and at points as far distant as Sch. Haven and Patterson, (now Brockton).

For a time, the Rev. Edw. Maginnis, of St. Patrick's parish, celebrated mass for the Germans every Sunday. On Nov. 13, 1842, the Bishop appointed the Rev. Jos. Burg to be the first German Catholic rector. He served until his death in January, 1849.

The cornerstone of the church was laid and blessed in 1842, with Father Steinbacher officiating at the ceremony. The church was completed during that same year.

The women of the congregation played an important part in the building of the church. They even assisted the men in collecting stones in wheel barrows and in bringing water from a distance to mix the mortar. They worked each afternoon and early evening. In the absence of pews, the women brought their own chairs from their homes and benches were carried to the church to accommodate the out-of-town worshippers. They also assumed charge of building the fire each Saturday evening to warm the church for Sunday worship.

During his residence here, Father Burg occupied the home at 301 Union St., afterward the Terry homestead, it being bought by the head of that family from the congregation on Feb. 8, 1871 for $1600. It is still standing.

First Parish Babes Baptized

Louisa Lippe, daughter of Adolph Lippe and Theresa Eichorn, born on Dec. 10, 1842, and William Eberle, son of Peter Eberle and Anna Wahl, born Dec. 10, 1842, were the first babes baptized, by Father Burg, on Dec. 15, 1842.

Upon Father Burg's death, on Jan. 16, 1849, he was buried in No. 1 cemetery, in the rear of the old church, from which his remains were exhumed and removed by Father Longinus, for reinterment, at the foot of the cross in No. 2 cemetery, Yorkville, in 1883.

On Oct. 5, 1845, there was the first confirmation, in the little church, when Bishop Francis Kendrick administered the Sacrament to a class of one hundred members.

Father Burg, in 1849, was succeeded by the Rev. Peter Maris Carbon The latter was succeeded by the Rev. Daniel Oberholzer, O. M. Cap It was during his administration that the first school, a one-story stone building, was erected. The educational institution was opened in 1850 and was in charge of a male teacher.

The last session was held and the first St. John's school house was closed on June 24, 1873, after 23 years of service, it having been opened during September 1850. Peter Meyer was the last teacher.

School, in the basement of the new church was commenced, in November, 1873, with seventy-five pupils enrolled. It was conducted until June 27, 1895, after which the partitions were removed and the basement of the church was then changed into a hall. John Ziegler taught there from Nov. 1, 1873, to June 27, 1874. The Misses Dorothy and Della Seeling and Matilda Giefel were the teachers who served from Sept. 1874 to June 25, 1875.

As the initial burying ground, cemetery No. 1 in the rear of the church was being rapidly filled, the need of another and larger cemetery became paramount. Father Oberholzer purchased two acres of ground, on Mahantongo, between Twentieth and Twenty-first Sts Then, on account of the distance to the new burying ground, certain parishioners bought a plot, for a cemetery, fronting on Schuylkill Avenue.

St. John's first assistant rector was the Rev. Matthias J. Meurer, who was appointed, in 1856, after the Rev. Philip Wegmayr had succeeded Father Oberholzer as rector. For seven months, after the retirement of Father Wehmayr, in 1858, the church was closed, to public services, as the result of failure, on the part of the trustees of the Schuylkill Avenue cemetery to turn over the deed to the Bishop.

It was on Dec. 14, 1858, that the church was reopened and the Rev. Francis Neufeld was made rector. He was followed by the Rev. Francis J. Wachter who was made rector in 1862.

Site For Present Church

Three sites were considered, during Father Wachter's regime, for a new church. These were that, where the church now stands at Tenth and Mahantongo Sts.; another across from the church, and the third, on Market, between Sixth and Seventh Sts. The site, upon which the church was built, was bought in 1865, at a cost of $10,000.

During the rectorship of Father Baumeister, who succeeded Father Wachter in 1869, the erection of the new church had advanced to the lowest brownstone course just above the basement hall. The new rector worked indefatigably for the rapid completion of the new church making a house-to-house canvass, among the parishioners, monthly, in order to closely finance the undertaking.

When he was transferred to a charge in Phila., the new church was all but completed. The Rev. Herman A. Depmen completed the church and arranged the details for the dedication on Dec. 1, 1872, three months after he assumed his duties here. The church was solemnly blessed by the Rt. Rev. Bishop Jas. F. Wood.

The architecture of the church is after the Romanesque style, the interior being unobstructed by pillars, there being a clear view of the altars from every part of the spacious auditorium. Like the primitive church, it was built of rock taken from Sharp Mountain. The entire front is of Hummelstown brownstone.

The main auditorium of the church will seat 1,200 and will, when crowded, accommodate 2,000. It has a chime of four mammoth bells. Their combined weight is 14,000 pounds. They are placed in a specially built tower.

From 1841 to 1859, the parish grew from 27 to 435 families representing 1,800 communicants. The membership is now well over 2,500.

In 1875, the Sisters of Christian Charity, brought to Pottsville by Father Depman, took over charge of the parochial school. Because of his inability to reduce the parish debt, Father Depman resigned and, at his own request, was transferred by Bishop Wood.

Father Longinus Rector 54 Years

The Rev. Frederick Wm. Longinus, rector of St. Mauritius Church, Ashland, was appointed rector of St. John's and assumed charge Feb. 7th, 1878 and served the local parish faithfully until his death, for a period of nearly fifty-four years. Father Longinus was a native of Telge, Westphalia, Germany where he was born on March 25, 1847. While a high school student in Muenster, Germany, he was accepted for the Diocese of Phila. Arriving in New York on Sept. 5, 1868, he proceeded to Phila., where he entered the old seminary at 18th and Race Sts., on Sept. 8th, remaining there until the new seminary was opened in Overbrook. He was ordained on Dec. 23, 1871 being a member of the first class of ordained priests from that seminary.

When Father Longinus came to Pottsville, he faced a debt of $22,000. The church at that time represented nothing more than four bare walls, three altars, sanctuary railing, pews and a primitive organ. In a comparatively short time, all indebtedness was cancelled.

Early in his rectorship, Father Longinus enlarged the rectory, had the church frescoed, placed Stations of the Cross, had statues installed, provided a new lighting and heating system, rebuilt the Sisters' Home in 1881 and erected a school. Four bells were purchased in 1868 and were blessed by the Most Rev. Patrick John Ryan, D. D. L. L. D., Archbishop of Phila. on Sept. 7th, 1868.

In connection with Forty Hours' Devotion, on Nov. 6, 1892, the Golden Jubilee of laying the foundation of the church was fittingly observed. The excavating for and building of the foundation wall of the new school was begun in 1894.

The cornerstone was laid in 1895 The Apostolic Delegate the most Rev. Francis Satolli, D. D., officiated at the ceremonies. In the fall, the building was finished and blessed. The school was opened in September with an enrollment of 350.

Noted Prelate Officiated

Monsignor Satolli, at this ecclesiastical ceremonial, officiated for the first time, in a German Catholic parish. He was accompanied by Monsignor Schroeder, of the Catholic University, at Washington, D. C. The distinguished prelates were escorted to the rectory by the various parish societies, headed by the Third Brigade Band.

During Sunday there was a Pontifical High Mass, celebrated by Msgr. Satolli. Msgr. Schroeder made the address. Nearly two-score clergymen, from various parts of the anthracite region, in addition to the distinguished visiting prelates and local priests, participated in the services.

The school is located on the south side of Howard Ave., at the Tenth St. intersection. Its site is a lot 124 feet front and 150 feet deep. It is constructed of brick with outside trimmings of Hummelstown brownstone. All of the cross walls and partitions are also of brick. There are two stories, each thirteen feet high, with an eight-foot height, in the basement. It is of Romanesque architecture. The main entrance is on Howard Ave. The entire entrance is of richly-carved brownstone with six highly-polished granite columns three on each side of the doorway. The interior of the school is in keeping with the exterior as to finish and workmanship. There are eight rooms, 25 by 32 feet, with many windows and high ceilings.

All modern conveniences have been applied to the building in the way of heating and lighting. Its cost was less than $25,000. The site of the school was purchased by Father Longinus, from Samuel Griscom, of Phila., trustee, for $2,400.

When, on Sept. 2, 1875, the school was opened in the basement of the Church, divided into four class rooms, it was the fourth parochial school in the United States, of which the Sisters of Christian Charity were in charge. They came from Wilkes-Barre with Sister Cyrilla as Superioress, and first resided in Jas. Mudey's house, 1320 W. Norwegian St., where they remained until Sept 1st, 1881. Then they moved to the house built for them at 912 Howard Avenue.

John Parton built the Sisters' House, completing it on Aug. 27, 1881, its cost being $3,750. For $800 the house, 1005 Howard Ave., was bought as a residence for the sexton, from Chas. Kimmel, on May 4, 1883.

On Oct. 20, 1885, Wm. Haeusler and Catherine Oxenfeld, the first couple to obtain a marriage license in Schuylkill County, after a state law made it necessary to obtain such, were married by Father Longinus.

Prof. Leo Schwarze, a noted musician and choral leader, became organist and choirmaster on April 21, 1875.

Officiated At Golden Jubliee

At the Golden Jubilee of the foundation of the church, the following clergy officiated: The Revs. Augustin J. Schulte, of St. Charles' Seminary; Anthony Nathe, of Ashland; Wm. A. Duffy, of Pottsville; Geo. F. Michel, of Reading; Jos. J. Nerz, of St. Clair; Herman Died-

erich, of Mahanoy City; John A. Seimetz, of Catasauqua; Anthony T. Schuettelhoefer, of Shenandoah; Aegidius Mersh, of Minersville; Nicholas Forve, of Hazleton; and Bernard Korves, of Phila.

Silver Jubilee of Father Longinus

Father Longinus observed the silver jubilee of his ordination to the priesthood, on Dec. 29, 1896. He was celebrant at a Solemn Mass, assisted by the Revs. Bernard Korves, of St. Louis' Church, Phila., who was deacon and the Jos. J. Nerz, rector of St. Ignatius' Church, Phila., subdeacon. The Rev. Augustin J. Schulte, of the St. Charles Seminary, was master of ceremonies. The Rt. Rev. Monsignor Dr. Jos. Schroeder, of the Catholic University of America, delivered the sermon. The congregation presented Father Longinus with a purse of $1,100 which he donated to the Church.

On Sept. 21, 1914, the frame property adjoining the rectory, 911 Mahantongo St., was purchased from Misses Hannah and Emma Leib for $3,400. This property was razed in later years, and left space about the present rectory that made possible the beautifying of the grounds.

Prior to Father Longinus' pastorate, the following organizations sprang into existence: Sodality of the Immaculate Conception, Altar Society, Rosary Society and St. Vincent de Paul Society.

After his being made rector of St. John's parish, the following were organized: St. Aloysius Sodality Society, League of the Sacred Heart, Third Order of St. Francis, Senior and Junior Holy Name Societies.

There are also three beneficial societies, viz: St. John the Baptist, oldest in Schuylkill County; St. Bernard's and Knights of St. George. Mrs. Robert A. Knecht is president of another flourishing society, the Catholic Women's Union.

Priests Under Father Longinus

During the long rectorship of Father Longinus, the following nineteen assistant priests served: The Revs. Frederick Schlebbe, ordained May 14, 1871, whose death occurred while he was passing thru Bethlehem, en route to Europe; John A. Jansen, who, later became a member of the Society of Jesus, ordained May 26, 1877; Bernard Korves, ordained Dec. 21, 1878; Jos. J. Nerz, ordained Dec. 3, 1879; John A. Seimetz, ordained May 29, 1887; Anthony T. Schuettelhoefer, ordained June 11, 1870; Chas. I. Sauers, ordained Dec. 23, 1871.

Henry A. Gantert ordained March 15, 1890; Francis X. Wastl, ordained May 31, 1890; Albert M. Korves, ordained May 23, 1891; Francis J. Regnery, ordained May 19, 1894; Anthony M. Koos, ordained May 27, 1899; Edward G. Werner, ordained July 26, 1896; Francis P. Holtgreve, ordained Sept. 27, 1896; Jos. A. Schaefer, ordained June 1, 1901.

Chas. P. Bruehl, S. T. L., Ph. D., later professor of philosophy at St. Charles' Seminary, Overbrook, ordained July 16, 1902; Wm. J. Drobel, ordained June 6, 1903; Joseph Hensbach, ordained March 9, 1894; Henry J. Steinhagen, ordained Nov. 16, 1911; Francis J. Karl, Bruno Zietsch, Cyril Birlemin, Eugene Maier, Clarence Lagel, and the Rev. Leo A. Klassen, now serving in the capacity of curate.

Young Men In Priesthood

Young men, of the St. John's parish have entered the priesthood as follows: The Revs. Linus Aloysius Schwarze, ordained June 5, 1903, for the Diocese of Trenton, in St. Vincent's Benedictine Arch Abbey

Church, at Beatty, West Moreland County; Wm. J. Drobel, ordained June 6, 1903, for the Diocese of Phila., in the Chapel of St. Charles' Seminary, Overbrook; Edw. J. Leinheiser, ordained June 10, 1911, for the Diocese of Columbus, Ohio, in the Chapel of the Pontifical College Josephinium, later sent to London, England, to pursue a course of studies in church music and Gregorian chant who also studied with the Benedictines on the Isle of Wight and at Beuron, Germany.

Revs. Aloysius R. Rees was ordained for the Diocese of Phila., Nov. 16, 1911, in the Cathedral of SS. Peter and Paul, Phila.; John N. Wachter, ordained for the Diocese of Phila., May 30, 1914, in the Chapel of the Pontifical College Josephinium, Columbus, Ohio; Leo Stanislaus Schwarze, ordained May 27, 1916, for the Diocese of Trenton, in the Cathedral of SS. Peter and Paul, Phila.; Jacob W. Post ordained for the Diocese of Phila., June 13, 1917, in the Chapel of the Pontifical College Josephinium, Columbus, Ohio; Anthony Chas. Schwarze, ordained in 1918, for the Diocese of Trenton; Paul V. Flanagan, studied at Washington, D. C., and finished at Rome, Italy, in 1933, becoming a member of the Dominican Order of Missionaries; Lawrence Leinheiser and nephew Edw. Leinheiser, ordained at the Pontifical College the Second, Josephinium Chapel, Columbus, O.; and Leo Koehler, ordained in 1931 at St. Vincent's College, at Latrobe, Pa; Leo Post, ordained in 1921, at St. Charles Seminary; Chas. Otterbein ordained in 1921 at St. Charles Seminary.

Father Longinus celebrated his first mass in Phila. on Dec. 25, 1871. His golden jubilee was observed on Sunday, Dec. 25th, 1921, when the venerable priest celebrated mass in St. John's Church. On account of the following Monday being devoted to the secular observance of Christmas, the official or second, Solemn High Mass and accompanying jubilee ceremonial was observed on Tuesday, Dec. 27th. Full honor was then accorded the beloved priest with Cardinal Dougherty gracing the ceremonies. A telegram was received from the Vatican, conveying the Papal Blessing, which was publicly read by Father Valentine Lehnerd, of Scranton, a Missionary of the Passionist Fathers, who a short time later took up important ecclesiastical duties of his Order in Germany.

The Cardinal headed a large number of priests, among prominent prelates, who assembled in the church. The procession was led, from the rectory, to the church, by the Rev. John Wachter, followed by the Revs. John Post and Leo Schwarze, as candle bearers, with a score of Alcolytes or altar boys.

In the procession were: Monsignors Anthony Kaul, of Lancaster; Gerald P. Coughlan, of Phila.; Peter Masson, of Allentown; and Francis J. McGovern, of Pottsville; Father Valentine, orator of the day, and the Rev. F. W. Longinus, the Jubilarian, followed by a group of younger priests, headed by the Rev. Francis J. Karl, serving, at that time, as first assistant, under Father Longinus.

Monsignor Masson, officiating as Arch Priest during these impressive services sat under a canopy, near the wall, at the right of the altar. On each side were his assistants, Father Frigelake, of Brooklyn, and the Rt. Rev. Dr. Joseph Vitt, of Phila.

Death of Father Longinus

The Rev. Father Longinus, for 55 years rector of St. John's parish, and 61 years a priest, died at the age of 85 on Dec. 1, 1932, following an illness of several months,

during which period he was bedfast for most of the time.

The Rev. Frederick A. Fasig, present rector, who was temporarily in charge of the parish, during the latter days of Father Longinus' life, administered the last rites of the Church. Monsignor George L. Leech was at his bedside and the Sisters of Christian Charity were also present when he passed to his final reward.

The obsequies of Father Longinus were conducted, on Dec. 6th, when there was an outpouring of the community with 300 priests and 100 Nuns, from far and near to pay tribute to the memory of the revered priest.

Preceding the main services there was a Solemn High Mass for the children of the parish who attended in a body filling the church. Father Fasig was the celebrant; the Rev. John Wachter, of the Sacred Heart Church, at Wyomissing, Reading, deacon; and the Rev. S. A. Fasig, of Bethlehem, subdeacon. Father Monsignor Kaul, of St. Matthews' Church, Brooklyn, was master-of-ceremonies.

At St. Patrick's Church, as a tribute to the deceased priest of the neighboring parish, a Solemn High Mass was observed with the following priests officiating: Monsignor Leech, celebrant; the Rev. Lawrence Maher, deacon; and the Rev. Jos. Kavanagh, subdeacon.

With the casket, containing the body of the beloved priest, placed at the head of the church, in front of the main altar, the Solemn High Mass of Requiem was celebrated. The officers were: The Rev. Dr. J. C. Vitt, of Phila., celebrant; the Rev. Henry J. Steinhagen, of Phila., deacon; and the Rev. John A. Wachter, of Reading, subdeacon. The Rev. Dr. Francis J. Furey, secretary to the Cardinal, was the master-of-ceremonies. Monsignor Leo F. Fink, of Allentown, delivered the sermon, and Cardinal Dougherty performed the absolution of the body.

While the body lay in state, in the church, prior to the obsequies, a guard of honor, furnished from the Fourth Degree of Schuylkill Council No. 431 Knights of Columbus, served relay watches. They also officiated, forming a lane, outside the church, through which the body was borne to the hearse that carried it to the place of interment, at No. 3 cemetery, in Yorkville, where it was buried beneath the cross, in the center of the hallowed ground, thus carrying out the last wishes of the deceased rector.

Father Fasig's Arrival

The Rev. Frederick A. Fasig, the present rector, came to Pottsville from St. Paul's parish, at Allentown, and assumed charge of the duties of the parish during the illness of Father Longinus as temporary rector. To assist him, the Rev. Leo A. Klassen, of the Holy Ghost Church, at South Bethlehem, a native of Ashland, was named. He is still serving in that capacity. Father Fasig was appointed rector shortly after the passing of his beloved predecessor.

Father Fasig has had many changes made in the parish property since he became spiritual director of the German Catholics of this city. Alterations and improvements were made to the terraces in front of the church. A straight, direct approach has been provided leading to the main entrance to the church, from Mahantongo St. Old trees were removed. A thorough cleaning was done and there was repointing of masonry.

The old rectory some years prior to Father Longinus' illness, was improved to its present cozy and at-

tractive appearance, a new brick facade having been provided. The old frame Leib property, on the east, was razed and a beautiful lawn and flower beds now surround the property.

During Father Longinus' rectorship, the old Russel property, at Ninth and Howard Avenue, was purchased by the parish. It was improved so that a beautiful park was established where the annual outings and other functions of the parish are conducted. There is a fine parish hall converted from the old Russel homestead. In the future, it is proposed to erect a German Catholic high school on the property.

During recent months, Father Fasig has made many interior improvements to the church. These include laying a new hard wood floor in the Sanctuary, and the artistic decoration of the Stations of the Cross and sacred statues. Granite sills and new doorways have been placed on both sides of the building and modern hardware provided. Repainting and pointing was done outside wherever it was found necessary. Repairing of the heating system and papering was carried out in a thorough manner.

General renovating inside and outside the convent and rectory buildings proved a splendid improvement. The outside of the school property was also pointed and repainted. The parish hall has also been improved inside and outside. The grounds, about the parish hall, are enclosed with a neat, ornamental fence. The Bunker Hill cemetery was also improved on an elaborate scale and the whole enclosed with a substantial fence. Tombstones, that had fallen, were reset and straightened. The burial ground now presents a most satisfactory appearance.

Last Year Troop No. 2 of Boy Scouts of the parish, in a beautiful and patriotic ceremony, presented an emblem of "Old Glory" and a Papal flag which were placed one on each side of the main altar.

County Parishes Founded

Following the establishment of St. John's parish, others were founded in Schuylkill County. In 1840, St. Stephen's, Port Carbon, had its origin, being conducted as a mission, supplied from St. Patrick's Pottsville. The church was built in 1840. The parish, at that time, also included New Philadelphia, later being made a separate parish.

St. Vincent de Paul's, Minersville, was made a parish in January, 1846. St. Ambrose's parish, at Sch. Haven, was created in 1863, the church being ready for worship in that year. The first rector was appointed in 1865.

St. Mauritius parish, at Ashland, had its inception in 1853. The Rev. Matthias Meurer blessed and laid the cornerstone of the primitive church. It was opened for worship on Dec. 28, 1856. The Rev. F. W. Longinus served as its rector from 1873 to 1878 when he was transferred to St. John's Church, at Pottsville.

The English-speaking Catholics established St. Joseph's parish, at Ashland, which was early visited by the Revs. Jos. O'Keefe, of Pottsville, and later, by the Rev. Thos. Lindon, under whose rectorship the church was built the first mass being celebrated in it, during March 1857, by Father Lindon. The parish, at the time of its establishment, included Centralia, Mt. Carmel, Girardville and the Planes.

In 1852, there was laid out St. Bonifacius parish, at St. Clair, the Rev. Wenceslaus John Repis being the first pastor. During 1855, Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church, for German-speaking Catholics, was built at Minersville, the initial rector being the Rev. Matthew Joseph Meurer.

St. Kieran's parish, at Heckscherville, was founded in 1858, the first pastor, the Rev. John B. Scanlon, serving as rector until 1867.

St. Canicus parish, at Mahanoy City, was established in 1863, also including Gilberton, Shenandoah and all the mining villages between those places and Mahanoy City. The first church was dedicated in 1866.

In 1864, the German Catholics, of Mahanoy City, organized, and a missionary station was set up served by Father Depman, of St. Clair, and Father Grunther, of Phila. The cornerstone of St. Fidelis Church was laid there in 1866.

In 1864, St. Mary's Church was built at St. Clair. The parish was formed from parts of the Port Carbon and Pottsville parishes, the first services being held in St. Clair Hall.

On Aug. 10, 1870, St. Joseph's parish, at Girardville, was organized. For two years the congregation worshipped in a temporary chapel which occupied a site near the present church.

During July 1870, the Rev. Henry O'Reilly was made rector at Shenandoah. The cornerstone of the Church of the Annunciation, of the B. V. M., was laid in 1872 the first mass being read on Dec. 19, of the same year.

St. Mary's Church, at Mahanoy Plane, was erected in 1874.

In 1854 the cornerstone of the Church of the Immaculate Conception was laid at Tremont.

The parish of St. Mary Magdalen was organized, on Dec. 24, 1879, at Lost Creek. The congregation worshipped in a public hall until Christmas, 1880.

New Castle Named for English Coal Centre

(From "Pottsville Republican"-"Morning Paper," September 3-7, 1934)

By Pupils Mt. Laffee Jr. High School, Chas. B. Williams, Sup. Prin.

New Castle Township, so named after the famous coal centre of England, was formed from Norwegian in 1847. Prior to its organization as a separate township it was a part of Norwegian Township, one of the nine original townships of Schuylkill. It is bounded by Butler, West Mahanoy, Blythe, East Norwegian, Norwegian, and Cass Townships.

The first settlers in what is now New Castle Township were Jacob Yoh, John Boyer, and Necho Allen. The Necho Allen Hotel in Pottsville perpetuates the memory of this early Schuylkill County pioneer. Yoh settled on the turnpike leading west from Wadesville, near the present residence of Owen Loftus, and which at an earlier date was the home of Evan Evans, early coal operator and the father of Wm. J. Evans, present Prothonotary of Sch. County.

Boyer located about a mile north of Yoh, on the road leading to Mt. Laffee. This dwelling was later occupied by Tobey Hire, and was but recently removed due to mining operations.

Necho Allen settled at the Big Spring about one-half mile above the later site of the village of New Castle on the summit of Broad Mountain. His residence was called the "Black Cabin."

In one of his hunting expeditions in 1790, Allen camped on Broad Mountain for the night and kindled a fire among some rocks. During the night he wakened to find a mass of glowing fire, having accidentally set fire to an outcrop of an anthracite coal-bed.

Later a tavern was erected on the spot along the Centre Turnpike and called the Second Tavern to distinguish it from another tavern located in the village of New Castle, and known as the First Tavern. This latter building was recently removed, its last occupant being Peter McCloskey. These three early settlers took up residence in the township about the year 1800.

William Yoh, son of Jacob Yoh and son-in-law of John Boyer, built the first tavern along what became the Centre Turnpike, about 1810. This tavern was burned in 1830. B. Gallagher's tavern near Yoh's remained until 1924 as one of the landmarks of the township and is often referred to as the McCloskey Hotel.

Settlers Arrived In 1830

The first influx of settlers began about the year 1830, when mining operations became more extensive. In 1850 the population was 2,140; in 1860, 2,184; in 1870, 2,229; in 1880, 1,540. This population remained about constant until the settlement of Arnots in 1906, when the population was practically doubled and has remained so since.

The Centre Turnpike was opened about 1809, by an Act of Pennsylvania Legislature. In the early years it was practically impassable but by 1811 or 1812, a weekly stage was running between Phila. and Sunbury. It was along this thor-

oughfare that the early settlers, Yoh, Boyer and Necho Allen built their homes.

Houses of entertainment, or taverns, were built along this highway for the convenience of travelers. One of the earliest of these was that built by Necho Allen on the Broad Mountain a short distance above the later site of New Castle. Another built by William Yoh, was built near the top of Mine Hill, which was later burned. These hostelries were stopping places for travelers and teams, and it was no uncommon sight to see lines of wagons two to three miles in length in the early part of the day moving toward Philadelphia, or Sunbury. These early wagons were mostly heavy vehicles covered with canvas and drawn by four, five or six horses. From two to two and one-half tons was an ordinary load for a team of this kind. The wagoners carried grain for their horses, which was fed in feed boxes or troughs carried for this purpose. They also carried their own provisions and mattresses on which to sleep. Sometimes they slept under the covers of their wagons while their teams rested and refreshed themselves at the feed boxes which were fastened to the tongues of the wagons. In that way they made their trip with their loads of produce and returned with merchandise. The main business of the tavern was to supply whiskey, and furnish entertainment to those who traveled on horseback. Many of these carried their provisions in the capacious saddlebags with which they were equipped. On the floors of these bar-rooms in these primitive hotels many teamsters would spread their mattresses and sleep, after having cared for their teams and spending a jolly time with their fellow travelers drinking whiskey, telling jokes, recounting their adventures and the latest news. Sometimes the beds of these travelers were spread so thickly that standing room could not be found between them.

Necho Allen Had First Tavern

The first tavern of this kind was that of Necho Allen. He came to New Castle Township from Lake Champlain to work as a lumberman. His tavern was built when the turnpike was commenced. He boarded the hands that worked on it, and afterwards, when travel began on the road, kept such a hotel as the customs of the people required. He and his wife were almost invariably known as uncle and aunt. Necho used to relate that the only time he ever fired a gun was when Aunt almost compelled him to do so at a flock of wild turkeys that were scratching for the grain that the teamsters' horses had left. The recoil of the gun and his fright sent him sprawling upon the floor, while the turkeys cried "Quit" "Quit" and took flight.

A Mr. Eckbrod, of whom little is known, succeeded Mr. Allen; and later a Mr. Lumison, of whom little historical data is available, succeeded Mr. Eckbrod.

The tavern near the top of Mine Hill was built by John Boyer, one of the pioneer settlers, and was first kept by his son-in-law, Wm. Yoh. After his death it was kept by John Fetterman, later by a Mr. Backman, Geo. Kauffman, Colonel Shoemaker and others.

This turnpike became the most prosperous highway in the State. In 1829 three state coach lines were traversing the road daily. The arrival of the state coach with the mail and its eight or ten passengers was awaited with anticipation and interest and presented a most picturesque scene. The Centre Turnpike was the Main Street of the early settlements of New Castle Township. It remained as such until the advent of railroad transportation. The first railroad to pene-

trate this region was The Mine Hill and Sch. Haven Railroad, a branch of which was extended into Broad Mountain in 1829. The necessity of moving coal from the mines to market encouraged the building of other roads, and people consequently began to establish their homes along the new transportation lines or near their work. The popularity of railroad travel seriously affected the flow of traffic along the Turnpike. The Centre Turnpike was less and less frequently used until 1888-1890 it was practically abandoned, leaving us with the memories of state coach travel of a glamorous and romantic past. Mining operations underneath its surface resulted in caveins and the road near New Castle was abandoned, from probably 1890 on.

The development of automotive travel since 1900 resulting in the necessity for the better rural highways and additional highways has resulted in the reconditioning of the Centre Turnpike from the Odd Fellows Cemetery, at Pottsville, to the New Castle Bridge. The road is at present under construction as a C. W. A. project. From New Castle south to Darkwater it follows a newly located road, which mining operations made necessary some fifteen years ago. Another branch of the Turnpike from a point above Mt. Laffee through Mt. Laffee to Duncott is also being constructed as a part of the Pennsylvania State Highway System.

May Revive Centre Turnpike

The Centre Turnpike may again in the future become the most important traffic artery of the Schuylkill Region. Its courses from Pottsville over the Broad Mountain to Gordon and Ashland traverse some of the most picturesque and magnificent scenery in Schuylkill Co. The route is not at any place steep and precipitous, but rolls from valley to valley until it reaches the Broad Mountain, which it ascends along a gently rising grade and proceeds for seven miles along the broad top of the mountain to descend gently upon the northern side into Gordon. This route is six miles shorter from Ashland to Pottsville than the present highway by way of Frackville and St. Clair. The Centre Turnpike will no doubt become in the next decade as it was in the early days of the development of this region, the principal highway between "North of the Mountain" and "South of the Mountain."

The flourishing condition of the coal trade during the latter part of the nineteenth century and first quarter of the twentieth kept this region in a uniformly prosperous condition. The use of substitute fuels and the readjustments at present taking place in the region has resulted in the abandonment of Wadesville Colliery, which normally employed one thousand men. The abandonment of such individual operations as Richard White's Colliery at Wadesville, and a smaller operation in the same vicinity operated by Chas. Geisweit, and similar operations at New Castle by Mr. Whims previous to the abandonment of Wadesville Colliery have seriously affected the economic prosperity of this Township.

The only colliery at present operating within New Castle Township is the old Repplier Colliery, of the Buck Run Coal Co.

Flowery Field Schoolhouse

Flowery Field Schoolhouse, the first in this Township, was built along the Centre Turnpike in 1828. Its site was near the present farm of Christ Marx, about one-half mile due west of Wadesville. John Burger was the builder and Jonathan Shaffer of St. Clair, then a boy of sixteen, with his father, assisted Mr.

Burger. The lumber for this schoolhouse was rough hewn as were the seats and desks. The room was 20 by 25 feet. Its first teacher was Mr. White. Lewis Rees taught in this school in 1830.

There were six schoolhouses in the Township in 1879. The Upper New Castle Schoolhouse was built of stone with a tin roof and a belfry, in 1873. The lower New Castle building, which is of wood, was built in 1878. This was a building of wood, with two departments and was surrounded by a grove of trees. The one at Wadesville, built in 1879, is of wood and has a belfry. The house at Greenberry was refitted in 1879.

A short distance from Flowery Field Schoolhouse, a cemetery was commenced previous to the building of the school. This cemetery was a public burial ground, the only one that has ever existed in the Township. Messrs. William Yoh and John Boyer and their wives are buried here. The earliest grave markers date back to 1830.

This cemetery was on land later acquired by Colonel Louis Ellmaker, who laid out the towns of Wadesville and New Castle. Colonel Ellmaker set aside the burial ground for the people of Wadesville and vicinity. Many of the early residents are buried here. The cemetery occupies a beautiful site on the top of Peach Mountain, commanding a view of the most picturesque scenery in Schuylkill Co. It is at present maintained by the people of Wadesville, after having been in charge for years by Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Company, present lessees of the tract.

A Progressive District

New Castle Township has always been one of the most energetic and progressive districts in educational circles in Schuylkill Co. For many years the various villages and communities in the district were served by one and two roomed school buildings. As the population increased these buildings gave way to larger and more modern schools. At the present time there are four buildings in use. One at Wade, with two rooms in operation; one at Arnots, with six rooms in operation; one at New Castle, with one room; and a Consolidated Elementary Junior High School at Mt. Laffee. This latter building was erected in 1924 and is modern in every respect. The Junior High School is a recognized Junior High School with a high rating and an excellent reputation. The school system at present is a six-three system, six years elementary work and three years Junior High School. After graduating from the Junior High School pupils complete their Senior High School course at St. Clair, Cass Township, and Pottsville High Schools.

New Castle Township Schools are at present under the supervision of Chas. B. Williams, Supervising Principal.

Town Was Laid Out In 1830

New Castle, also known as Broad Mountain, was laid out in 1830 by Lewis Ellmaker.

For many years New Castle was a stopping place for stage coaches and others traveling on the old Centre Turnpike from Ashland to Pottsville. It was also used by drovers who drove their sheep and cattle from Ashland to Pottsville. They frequently stayed overnight in the village, sleeping in the Reber Hotel in the stone house at the foot of Mine Hill. The cattle were pastured in "The Brush Lot."

In Heart of the Anthracite

It is in the heart of the anthracite region. The surface consists

of a succession of hills, valleys and low mountain ranges. The mountains are the Broad, Sharp and Mine Hill. Mountain chains vary from six to 11 hundred feet above the valley. No small ridge, except Red Mountain, intervenes between Sharp and Mine Hill, the latter of which is the great anti-clinal of the Schuylkill Coal Field.

The surface of New Castle is an undulating valley with low mountains on either side. These mountains are remarkable for the uniformity of the level of these crests. The gaps in the mountains form prominent and important features in the general landscape. Standing in the valley, the observer has grand and beautiful scenery before him. There were long stretches of the beautiful landscape diversified by low hills, covered with trees and wild flowers. Quiet homesteads with cultivated fields, and glimpses of meandering streams add beauty to the view. The scenery of New Castle is now entirely changed on account of extensive mining.

Some fragmentary evidence remains to show an Indian occupation, even if but light, at some time preceding the Whites, at which times the territory was used by the savages as a happy hunting ground. It is believed that Indians are buried in a section of the village known as the "Brush Lot."

A number of arrow heads have been found. A story is told that one of the early residents, "Granny Koch," was killed by one of them.

An old Indian trail passed over the Broad Mountain, but no account of it has been preserved, and undoubtedly there were other trails known to the early settlers, whose names, courses and history have been lost for want of some one 40 years ago to gather the information which was then available.

Mining Chief Occupation

Mining was the chief occupation. Early methods of mining were primitive and crude. The windlass and bucket were used to hoist coal from the pit, until at a depth of 30 or 40 feet the water drove them out to commence a new pit. The gin worked by horse-power succeeded the windlass. In a short time the pits were abandoned to open veins at the foot of the hills by drifts. The coal was taken out of the drifts by wheel-barrows, and later by horse and mule power, over wooden railways. The pick, hammer, shovel and riddle were used on the surface to fit the coal for market. It was then loaded in wagons and hauled to the Schuylkill Canal, often at a cost of 25 cents per ton for each mile.

The year 1842 witnessed a great change in the transportation of coal. The Phila. & Reading Co. entered the field as a rival to the Schuylkill Navigation Co. The company immediately reduced the cost of transportation.

In 1842, the penitentiary breaker was introduced. It consisted of a perforated cast-iron plate, through which the coal was broken by hammer, the coal falling into a hopper, from which it passed into a circular screen. The screen was worked either by hand, horse or steam power.

In 1844, the modern coal breaker, patented by Joseph Batten, of Phila., was introduced at Gideon Bast's Wolf Creek Colliery, and soon came into use throughout the region.

The Repplier Colliery was first operated by Joseph Lawton. It was then taken over by George

Repplier, a man of French descent, who bought the colliery from Lawton. The Repplier Colliery was considered the largest in Schuylkill County. It was abandoned after the seven-months suspension of 1877. It was then taken over by John F. Quinn and John O'Mahoney, who in 1874, operated a drift and stripping. They stripped coal by teams and cars, supplying coal to the St. Clair furnace and to the patrons of Pottsville. Later, a slope was opened by John F. Quinn and Joseph Denning. They shipped their coal over the Girard Railroad. Later the Pennsylvania came through and bought the right of way over the Girard Road. Mr. Quinn and Mr. Denning dissolved partnership at this time. James Whims went in partnership with Mr. Quinn. They built a breaker on the Frackville road, and operated successfully for a number of years. Later it was sold to the Buck Run Coal Co., the present owners.

Stephen Girard built the first railroad in New Castle in 1747. It extended from Ruler's Road, a timber road on the summit of the mountain, south of the main highway, to the top of the Frackville road. It was known as The Girard Railroad.

The Mine Hill and Schuylkill Haven Railroads were extended to Broad Mountain in 1829, and had five miles of branches. The superstructure of these railroads was wooden rails, strapped with flat bar-irons, and the motive power was horse. The Phila. & Reading Railroad was extended to the head of the Frackville grades in 1866. The Pennsylvania Co. bought the Girard rights and entered the village in 1885.

The Schuylkill Railway Co. extended trolley lines through Darkwater at a later period. The trolley cars have been displaced by busses.

Walked To Pottsville For Supplies

Prior to the opening of stores in New Castle people walked to Pottsville for supplies and carried them home. The first store was opened by John Spohn. This was followed by Phillips' store. There were several stores opened up after the Phillips store, some of which were connected with the different coal companies.

The first post-office was in the Phillips' Store in 1863. The mail was brought in by stage coaches. The present inhabitants must go to St. Clair for their mail.

The first school was a one-room building in Upper New Castle. It was taught by Mr. Crosby. The third building was a two-room structure, built in the Brush Lot, and taught by Thos. Egan and Chas. Magee. The next was built in Lower New Castle in a lane near the Miller home. It was abandoned because the coal banks were extended to the grounds. It was a one-room building, and taught at different times by Thomas Crosby, John O'Malley and Charles Magee. The next was a one-room stone building erected in Upper New Castle near the Centre Turnpike. The second lower school is still standing and is used as a residence. The teachers in this building were John J. Egan, Nora Joyce, Catherine Nolan, Anna Foley, Thomas O'Donnell, and P. J. Mahoney. The building was abandoned because it is undermined. A three-room building was then erected in Hepher's field. This was also declared unsafe because of mining conditions. It was moved to a hill south of the main highway. One of those rooms is at present used as a class-room. The others are closed, owing to the shifting of the population on account of mining conditions.

Prominent Persons

The first physician in New Castle was Doctor Phillips. He was succeeded by Doctor McWilliams, who held his office and residence in the Reber building, a large stone house at the foot of Mine Hill. Later, Dr. R. T. Weaver had an office in the same building, but resided at St. Clair.

Congressman Elias Davis is kindly remembered by the people for his efforts in having a bill passed by which the miners were granted a semi-monthly pay instead of monthly.

Lawyer Mahoney was admitted to the Bar March 4, 1907. He taught school at the age of fifteen, succeeding Miss Catherine Nolan. She resigned to enter St. Joseph's Convent and is known as "Mother St. Augustine".

The first election was held in the Reber building known as "The Stone House". At present, it is held in the school house.

The first tax collector was Jeremiah Gorman. The present incumbent is Peter V. McCloskey.

One of the oldest veterans was James Wilson, who served in the Mexican and Civil Wars.

John Ball, a noted veterinary soldier, served in that capacity in the Civil War.

Mrs. Betsy Anspach sent her husband and six sons, to the Union Army. They were Daniel Senior Daniel Junior, Bill, George, Jesse, Israel, and Edward.

Once Had Several Churches

There were several churches in New Castle. The Reformed Church was built in New Castle in 1800. It was burnt down. Later St. Luke's Reformed was erected in Upper New Castle. Services were regularly held here until it was razed because of mining operations.

The Catholics had services in the school house. They worshipped there until the building was undermined, then they moved to a private home in 1927.

New Castle, once a prosperous mining village, is now practically abandoned only six houses remaining.

ARNOT'S ADDITION

Arnot's Addition derived its name from the first settler, John Arnot. It is approximately one hundred and fifty years since the first Arnot people lived here. Mr. Arnot owned a large farm from which he obtained a livelihood for his family. A short time after his death his family decided to stake it out for building lots. These plans were publicly made known. Two men from Pottsville, Mr. Mauer and R. C. Horn, purchased almost the entire farm, with the exception of the old homestead, which still stands and is occupied by a family named Konkus. They had the farm surveyed and staked out forming a small town, which was an addition to St. Clair Borough in New Castle Township.

In 1906, John Maley's home in St. Clair was destroyed by fire and one of his sons was burned to death. A rude construction of a home was hurriedly built on an intersection of two streets in Arnot's Addition. Mr. Maley's home was the first to be built in the Addition. The building, which is only a rude stable owned by John Marcavage, is still standing.

The lots were offered at a very reasonable price and houses were constructed by contractors within the means of workingmen. This was an inducement for many people to procure a home.

Built Village in Three Years

Arnots was inhabited by Polish, Slavish, Ukranians, Lithuanians, and a few Americans, who purchased buildings, lots, and homes

and permanently located there. In three years a large village sprung up with a population of about seven hundred.

Prior to the building of a school house in Arnot's Addition, the children had to go to Wadesville to school. The population in the course of a few years increased and it was decided to build a school. In 1914 a three room public school was erected. The first teachers were: John F. Egan, of Mt. Laffee; Edw. Barry, of New Castle; and Miss Anna Gillan, of East Mines. In 1916 two more rooms were added. Two more teachers were put on; Mrs. Edith Hale, of Wadesville, and David Smith, of Mt. Laffee.

There have been several disastrous fires in Arnot's Addition. In 1914, a serious fire occurred which threatened the whole of Broad St., causing the death of one of its citizens, a fireman, Leo Kadingo. The foundation of this home is still standing. The people due to superstition feared to rebuild it. Another fire broke out in 1917 in the business place of Mr. Olevich. The home was also completely destroyed, and several others around it were partly burned.

The village of Arnot's Addition has grown very rapidly and now has a population of about one thousand.

The occupation of the people is mostly mining. The men are employed at the Repplier Coal Co., St. Clair Coal Co., and also in the nearby towns.

(Note: In recent years, the name of the Arnot family has been variously spelled Arnout, Arnaut and Arnot, but the original name was "Arnot").

MT. LAFFEE

Mt. Laffee is a mining village, situated in the western part of New Castle Township on the Duncott-Pottsville road. It was first settled in the year 1840. Among its first settlers were Tobey Hire, Robert Bradley, Mrs. Joyce and Mrs. Peck. Other settlers came at a later date, among them the Hancocks, Kirks, Lawlors, McAndrews, Doyles, Stevens and Haughneys. Mrs. Solomon Hancock, who was known as "Aunt Betsy", was famed throughout this section. She had the spirit of the pioneer and gave her service freely. Many men who were burned in the mines remember the service she gave them. When a miner was burned or injured in this territory, invariably a mule and buggy was sent for "Aunt Betsy", and she was always sure to respond. Another woman who gave valuable service this way was Mrs. Farrell Donnelly. The Donnelly home has been destroyed by the mines, but another building has been erected at the site of the old Hancock home. The descendants of "Aunt Betsy" are still living here.

The surface of this section called Mt. Laffee is hilly and rugged and large areas are covered with enormous boulders of rock. There is found here both red ash and white ash coal in great abundance. Almost the entire village rests upon coal veins of excellent quality. The large number of abandoned shafts, and slopes, and the huge piles of refuse are mute testimonials of the past and present occupation of the inhabitants of the village.

Mining Operations

The early history of mining in this village is a story of the enterprising individual coal operator. An old resident of this section can locate three slopes within a radius of 200 feet. All were operated by different firms.

The first operation of importance was a colliery opened by Wm. Mann and Thos. C. Williams. This colliery was named the East Mt. Laffee. They drove a tunnel into the

mountains. This spot was later selected as the site of the Beechwood Breaker. A large quantity of coal was shipped from this tunnel. The work of sinking the Beechwood slope was started on Aug. 5, 1847. John Beadle was foreman, and his uncle, Wm. Beadle, was superintendent. In 1850 the firm was shipping from 80 to 100 cars of coal a day. This firm added its name to the long list of failures in 1853. Their successors were Miller and Patterson, Jas. Turner, and Hugh Stephenson. Franklin B. Gowen took over the colliery in 1856.

In 1856 when Mr. Gowen operated the colliery, the coal was still hauled to Palo Alto on the railroad in what was then known as "Canal Cars". Those cars were painted a bright yellow, their capacity being seven tons. The cars were drawn by six horses, four cars to a trip. The rails were of wood, which were later covered with iron plates.

A novel method of ventilating the tunnel and removing the smoke after a shot was invented by Mr. Gowen. The method was simply to have the driver fill the car with brush, then haul it through the tunnel to remove the smoke.

Mr. Gowen was followed by David Brown and Co. This firm had openings at various points in the village. A shaft sunk by this company could not be operated because the workings could not be kept free of water.

Miller's Row and Brown's Swamp still remain to remind us of Miller and Patterson and David P. Brown. Brown and Company failed and were succeeded by Morris, Robinson, Potts and J. K. Sigfried. In 1866 Potts withdrew. J. K. Sigfried then changed the name to the Beechwood Colliery. The P. & R. C. & I. Co., the present owners, secured the property in 1874. They shipped about 200 tons per day, although the breaker was said to have a capacity of 500 tons a day. They worked the Seven-foot and the Mammoth veins. The slope which was sunk in the south dip had a pitch of 45 degrees and its length exceeded 280 yards. The colliery was later abandoned and the breaker torn down. Many years later the drift was again opened and a shaft sunk. They were both operated for a number of years. The coal was sent to the Wade breaker for preparation. The colliery has been again abandoned and at the present time, January, 1934, the machinery has all been removed, and buildings are showing the effects of vandalism and decay.

Stone ventilating stacks, sturdy stone foundations, and rusting iron rods mark the location of the industry of those pioneers.

Five Buildings In 1840

There were only five buildings in Mt. Laffee in 1840. The first school was in a log cabin at the foot of what is now known as schoolhouse hill. There was also a school on the opposite side of the road from Miller's Row. This building was destroyed by fire. The old stone school house is still standing and is used as a residence. The next school was located midway between the Little Flower Chapel and the present Junior High School. It was originally intended to build this school on the top of Bunker Hill, but Pat Bambrick, who was then a member of the school board, convinced the other members of the board that the pines would be a better location.

In 1926, a Chapel was erected by the people of Mt. Laffee and New Street at a cost of $25,000. It is of the Spanish stucco type. The exterior is the rough plaster effect trimmed with red brick. The interior is also of rough plaster and dark wood doors and trim. The

beauty of the Chapel is due to its simplicity and to the skillful blending of subdued tones used in decorating.

WADESVILLE

Wadesville is situated in the southeast part of New Castle Township. The village was laid out by Col. Louis Ellmaker in 1830, and was named in honor of Captain John Wade, a coal operator.

The town has been developed by the numerous collieries worked in and around it. Wadesville is situated on one of the most extensive and most valuable coal basins in the lower Schuylkill region. Geo. Phillips was probably the first coal operator, or, at least, the first about whom any authentic record is available. He began mining coal in the vicinity of Wadesville previous to 1828. In 1829, a Mr. Heverly commenced driving a tunnel on the Flowery Field Tract northwest from Wadesville, and a Mr. Boas finished the tunnel cutting through the Orchard Vein. In 1835 Blakely and Ashley worked this colliery for Asa Parker, the lessee, shipping about thirty-five tons of coal per day. In 1828 the Flowery Field Colliery shipped more than 18,000 tons of coal per year. In 1845 Jonathan Wasley sunk two slopes, one on the north and the other on the south dips of the Orchard Vein. One engine pumped water from both slopes and another engine hoisted coal from the slopes. Wasley built a breaker and shipped about 200 tons of coal daily. This venture failed in 1852 and the colliery was abandoned in 1855.

In 1833 Thos. Ritchway drove a tunnel near the west end of the Girard Tunnel, a short distance above Wadesville, cutting the Four-foot, Seven-foot and Mammoth Veins.

Robert Nealy and Commodore Stockton operated here, but they abandoned the place in 1837.

Wadesville Shaft was formerly known as the Hickory Shaft, its workings being a continuation of the old Hickory water level and slopes, which was situated about a mile northeast of Wadesville.

In May 1871, the mine was found to be on fire and in June it became necessary to turn in water and drown it. The property was sold in 1876 at a Sheriff's Sale to the P. and R. C. and I. Co.

Wadesville Colliery was always noted for the gaseous condition of the mine. A number of the serious explosions occurred here. On May 9th, 1877, an explosion of gas occurred, which resulted in the death of six men.

In January, 1878, the mine was again found to be on fire. After laboring in vain until Feb. 10, of the same year it was decided to again drown it. Water was turned in from Mill Creek Feb. 14, and left to run for eighteen days, when it had reached a heighth of 368 feet in the shaft. The mine was then pumped dry and the first coal was shipped Oct. 21.

About five hundred men and boys were employed here. Eight engines supplied motive power about the mine. Wadesville Colliery remained in operation, adding to its operations from time to time additional mine openings, as the Holmes and Primrose Slopes, near the Old Hickory; the Stuyvesant Slope working; old and abandoned workings north of Wadesville; and the Beechwood Shaft and Drift.

The Beechwood workings were connected with the Wadesville Colliery by means of a plane over one mile long, and a railway another mile and one-half long. This entire region within a radius of three miles was a scene of great activity, with

strippings in operation, locomotives hauling mine cars, hoisting engines dotting the mountain sides, and the breaker shops, boiler house, and various other buildings attached to such a colliery. In 1928 Wadesville Colliery was shipping 1,000 to 1,500 tons of coal daily and employing about one thousand men. In March of 1930 the colliery was abandoned, presumably because of the loss of anthracite markets. The water was allowed to fill up the shaft, and at the present time completely filled the workings, finding an outlet at the Old Rainbow Shaft at St. Clair.

Other collieries near Wadesville within late years were individual operations. One at Georgetown near Wadesville, called "Dick Whites", named for the owner and operator. This colliery was abandoned a number of years ago, due to inability to secure extension of leases.

Another individual operator was Chas. Geisweit, whose small colliery operated by himself and sons served the Pottsville coal trade for years. Mr. Geisweit was forced to abandon his colliery, not being able to secure an extension of the lease.

Mr. Geisweit was of German ancestry and was one of the most versatile tradesman in this region. He operated a farm during the summer, and his colliery during the winter. He was a wheelwright, a blacksmith, and was an excellent mechanic. Mr. Geisweit's progressiveness and interest in mechanical things induced him to purchase one of the first automobiles to appear in Schuylkill County. This was one of the handle steered machines. Later Mr. Geisweit purchased a modern Maxwell with high seat, steering wheel, and two cylinders. This machine was painted a vivid red and was a familiar sight along highways about the year 1906 and until more modern machines made their appearance.

Other independent coal operators at Wadesville were Mr. Dutter, who lost a fortune at the Old Dutter Shaft, and Mr. Mullins. Descendants of these men live in and about Wadesville at the present time.

Primitive Methodist Church

On the 29th of April, 1855, a class was organized for the purpose of pursuing Bible Study and enjoying mutual Christian interests by the Rev. Jas. George, a local preacher. The members were Chas. Latham, Samuel Westwood, John Martin and Geo. Gordon. Mr. George was chosen leader. Services were held in the public school building. A short time later the members were accepted by the Primitive Methodist Church and were attached to the St. Clair circuit.

A church building was erected in 1871. It is of stone 30 by 40 feet, situated on a hill commanding a view of the entire valley in which Wadesville is situated.

It was dedicated Dec. 29, 1872, Benjamin Haywood, Francis Gray and Jos. W. Reed officiating. Mr. Haywood, it is reported, contributed as his part of the dedicatory service a crisp new $50 bill, rather than the usual eulogy.

The Sunday School was established with the Church, Rev. Jas. George being its first Superintendent. Mr. George was an excellent musician and was responsible for the organization of Choral Groups, which gained wide renown in their day.

On the 31st of June, 1868 there was organized in connection with the school, a society known as the Primitive Methodist Sabbath School Temperance Roll of Honor. It was founded by Rev. Jas. George. By 1876, fifteen other churches had organized similar societies. Thus to this church belongs the distinction of being one of the original organi-

zations which later grew into a National Prohibition Movement.

The Primitive Methodist Church has prospered both materially and spiritually. Some few years ago, the congregation remodeled its church by building a bell tower and installing a new front with stained glass windows. The congregation is at present the largest in the village, and its spiritual enthusiasm makes it one of the best known church groups in Schuylkill County.

Methodist Episcopal Church

The Methodist Episcopal Church of Wadesville is the oldest church in the community. It was organized as a branch of the Methodist Episcopal Church of St. Clair in October, 1867. Among the original members were John Botham, Geo. Miles, John and Betsy Webb. The church building was dedicated in January, 1868. Reverend S. G. Hare was the first pastor. The church is supplied by the pastor of the Methodist Episcopal Church at St. Clair.

The Sunday School was organized in 1865, two years before the organization of the Church. The first superintendent was Henry Shafer.

This church has had a long and honorable history. It has been prosperous through the years. The church is located in that part of Wadesville called Georgetown. It is of frame construction with ornamental windows.

Seventh Day Adventist

Wadesville's third and latest church is the Seventh Day Adventist. This church was organized in 1904 by evangelist Clarence Hilton, a son-in-law of Mrs. Mary Jenkins, a former resident of the village.

The first services were held in the school house and later in the home of Mrs. John Botham. In 1915 the congregation had increased in numbers to such an extent that a church was erected near the present school house. Early members of this church were: Mrs. John Head, Mrs. Elizabeth Smith, Mrs. Mary Jenkins, Mrs. Mary Botham, Mrs. Caroline Davis, Mrs. Jos. Cook, Sr., Clarence Hilton, and Lydia Hilton.

The church is supplied by visiting pastors, and is connected with the Reading District, Dr. W. J. Venen, Superintendent conducts, in addition to its regular church activities, a successful Sabbath School.

Famous Railroad Through Village

The famous Girard Railroad passed through the village of Wadesville, entering from New Castle by way of the Girard Tunnel, near the old Hickory Shaft, about one-half mile north of the Pennsylvania Railroad Station at St. Clair.

After leaving the tunnel above Wadesville, the cars were lowered into the valley below by means of a gravity railway; loaded cars descending draw up the empty cars.

The railroad travelled south thru Wadesville following a branch of the Schuylkill River to Pottsville. The Reading Railway Co. still maintains a branch line from Pottsville along this route into Wadesville Colliery.

One Hose Company

Wadesville maintains one Hose Company, the Rainbow Hose Co., organized in 1918. The Company occupies its own Hose House, and is equipped with a motor driven chemical apparatus. It is entirely self-supporting and has been prosperous through the years.

A War Memorial

Wadesville's appreciation, for those who served in the World War, has been permanently recorded by the establishment of a War Memorial situated on the highest eminence in the village. The plot which contains a Flag Pole, United States Gatling Gun, and Monument

with a Bronze Plaque, containing the names of those who served in the War, is maintained by the Rainbow Hose Co.

Wadesville contributed one life, in the War of Democracy, in the person of Robert Barnes, who was killed in action in France. The monument fittingly commemorates the memory of Robert Barnes.

GREENBURY

Greenbury, another small village of New Castle Township, was settled in the early days of coal mining activities in this area. It is located one mile west of the former village of New Castle and in the lower section of the Heckscherville Valley.

The early settlers were immigrants from Ireland and were attracted to the spot by its natural beauty, which resembled so closely the beauty of their favorite Irish dells.

Among the early settlers were Matthew Nolan, Mr. Boyle, and Hugh Hart, Sr.

The inhabitants were employed at a small colliery at the southern end of the village called Kear's Drift.

At a later date William Littlehales built a colliery near the old John Davis Colliery at New Castle. This was later taken over by the Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Co. This colliery was destroyed by fire in 1873, and was never rebuilt.

There were about one hundred inhabitants in the village at that time.

This was the period in which mine owners lived among their employees, and at Greenbury there still stands the "Big House", which was the dwelling place of operators of various collieries in the vicinity.

The first school house was a log building. It is still standing and is used as a dwelling.

A modern frame structure was later built and occupied until 1925 when it was abandoned, the children being transported to the Consolidated School at Mt. Laffee. This building is at present being used as a parish church connected with St. Kyran's Roman Catholic Church, of Heckscherville. It has been recently remodeled.

Greenbury was one of the most beautiful natural spots in Schuylkill County, until the coal companies undertook stripping operations. Much of the beauty still remains, despite man's civilized disregard for Nature's most beautiful creations.

In Greenbury may still be found descendants of the original settlers. These people represent the finest Irish stock and still retain the rugged, honest, pioneering, and fun-loving traits of their ancestors.

Shipping of Coal Gave Pt. Carbon Name

(From "Pottsville Republican"-"Morning Paper," September 8-12, 1934)

The history of Port Carbon was compiled by Jean Wesner and Betty Harner from material collected by the Junior Class of the Soldiers' Memorial High School, Port Carbon.

The committee in charge was composed of: Jean Wesner, Betty Harner, David Kirk, Geo. Liddle and Michael DeStefano. Misses Elizabeth Schrodding and Ruth Fahl were the Faculty Advisors.

The committee wishes to acknowledge assistance received from the following sources:—

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Port Carbon was laid out in 1826. The town was first named Middleport, but was later called Port Carbon because it was the shipping point for large amounts of coal Abraham Pott founded the town, and the first person known to reside there was Philip Faust.

Situated near the head waters of the Schuylkill Canal Port Carbon flourished in the early days of the coal industry. A wharf extended from the rear of the present home of Clayton Lime on Mill St. to the Rubright home on Acre St. In the spring time, families were taken by canal to Philadelphia with the coal and returned in November in time for the boys to go back to school. There was a bridge over the cut in Port Carbon which was called the Black Bridge.

In those days the south side of Pike St. was covered with a large blackberry patch. Pike St. was a corduroy road without any homes on the north side up to Washington St., except on the corner of Pike and Coal Sts., the site now occupied by the Spencer family. South Coal St. was also a corduroy road, and it was necessary for a swamp to be filled in before any homes could be built there. There was a cricket diamond at the corner of Pine St.

Dr. John Brown had a large barn on the Jackson St. side of the bridge. The doctor had hay brought from Schoentown in a cart drawn by a team of oxen, and he also delivered milk to the people of Port Carbon.

Among the early settlers of Port Carbon were: Abraham Pott, Samuel Christman, Dr. Wm. Hansell, Elisha Warne, Jos. Allison, Wm. Dicus, John G. Hughes, Thos. Sillyman, Jos. Richards.

Port Carbon was incorporated as a borough in April, 1852. At a meeting held June 7, 1852, the first officers elected were: Ross Bull, Burgess; Council—T. H. Wintersteen, John H. Woolsen, Milton Boon, David Knittle, Philip Steinbach, Obadiah Reed, Jos. Snyder, John Illingsworth, Jacob Lime, and Harry Shissler, Town Clerk.

The present officers are: Clarence Morgans, Burgess; Council, George Rankin, Henry Smith, Fred Wintersteen, John Hoy, Jos. Wilchusky, Wm. Shalters, John Howells; Chas. Harron, Town Clerk; Carl Wei-

gand, Treasurer; Harold Paul, Solicitor.

Today, we find Port Carbon steadily growing just as it has in the past. Improvements are constantly being made to make it a better town in which to live.

THE CHURCHES

The first church in Port Carbon was the Presbyterian Church. The first definite record of the Presbyterian Church states that on Aug. 27, 1832, a meeting was held at the home of Henry Porter (later home of Henry Heebner) in the Lawtontown section of Port Carbon, at which were present some of the inhabitants of town to consult on measures necessary to carry into effect the erection of a Presbyterian Church. But this meeting of citizens at the home of Henry Porter did not constitute itself or become a church organization.

On Aug. 3, 1833 "pursuant to public notice" a meeting of the citizens of Port Carbon was held at the office of Wm. Bosbyshell, for the purpose of adopting proper measures for organizing a religious society in this place, to be distinguished and known by the name of the "First Presbyterian Church and Congregation of Port Carbon."

The organization of the Sunday School antedates the establishment of the church by a little more than a year. The meetings were held in a small building which Abraham Pott had erected near the former Lutheran Church. As soon as the basement of the church was completed (probably the latter part of 1832 or early 1833) the Sunday School was transferred from the Irishtown school house to the present location on the ground floor of the church.

This church also has several societies for young people and works very diligently among the young people of the town.

The complete list of pastors who have served is as follows: Rev. Sylvanus Haight, 1834; Rev. Wm. Sellers; Rev. Robert McCarter, D. D., 1840; Rev. Andrew Jardine, 1840-1842; Rev. Van Artsdalen, 1842-1843; Rev. Geo. Printz, 1843-1844; Rev. Wilson Bornell; Rev. J. H. David, 1844-1849; Rev. T. D. Wardlow, 1850-1852; Rev. Andrew M. Lowry, 1853-1874; Rev. S. Augustus Davenport, 1875-1877; Rev. S. Henry Bell, 1878-1882; Rev. Archibald A. Murphy, 1882-1886; Rev. Jos. McAskie, 1886-1890; Rev. H. W. Tolson, 1890-1891; Rev. Jas. W. Boal, 1894-1904; Rev. H. C. Sperbeck, 1904-1906; Rev. Edwin H. Bronson, D. D., 1906-1908; Rev. W. H. Stone, Ph. D., 1908-1912; Rev. Samuel Potter, 1915-1921; Rev. J. N. Kugler, 1922-1926; Rev. Warren King, 1926-1930; Rev. Paul E. Rickabaugh, 1930—.

Since 1930 many improvements have been made in the church. The interior has been remodeled and a new pipe organ has been installed.

Methodist Church

In the year of 1834, Methodism was introduced in Port Carbon. In 1836, those of the Methodist faith formed a class and held the first meeting at the home of Daniel Wintersteen on Valley St.

In 1834, the first congregation was organized by Rev. J. C. Thomas. The church records show the organizers of the congregation as, Ross Bull, Tobias H. Wintersteen, David Oliver, James Beury, Robert Jackson, Jos. Thomas, Wm. Sims, John Sims, David J. Meyers, and Jos. Headley, together with their wives. In the same year (1834) a Sunday School was organized with David Oliver as the superintendent. Ross Bull was also superintendent

and choir director of the Sunday School.

The first church building, a stone structure, was erected at the corner of Pike and Washington Sts. in 1845, and was dedicated a year later. This building was known and used for the church until 1869, when it became too small for its growing membership. The church that is now standing was then built.

In 1885 the congregation erected the parsonage on Washington St. to the rear of the church building, which the present pastor occupies. The full roster of pastors from the beginning of the M. E. Church are as follows: Rev. John C. Thomas, 1846-1847; Rev. G. D. Bowen, 1847-1849; Rev. H. E. Gilroy, 1849-1851; Rev. James McCarty, 1851-1853; Rev. Dr. Jos. Whithers, 1853-1854; Rev. John W. Arthur, 1854-1856; Rev. J. C. Meredith, 1856-1858; Rev. John J. Jones, 1858-1860; Rev. J. F. Turner, 1860-1862; Rev. H. C. Walters, 1862-1864; Rev. Wm. McCoombs, 1864-1866; Rev. Allen Johns, 1866-1868; Rev. Jerome Lindemuth, 1868-1870; Rev. Noble Frame, 1870-1873; Rev. W. S. Hugh, 1873-1874; Rev. W. H. Freese, 1874-1875; Rev. J. Bickerton, 1875-1877; Rev. E. H. Martin, 1877-1880; Rev. A. C. Howard, 1880-1881; Rev. D. M. Young, 1881-1883; Rev. A. Dotterer, 1883-1884; Rev. Henry White, 1884-1887; Rev. Richard Kaines, 1887-1889; Rev. W. H. Cickop, 1889-1891; Rev. W. H. Pirkinpine, 1891-1893; Rev. A. D. Geist, 1893-1897; Rev. O. E. Stogden, 1897-1900; Rev. J. T. Swindells, 1900-1902; Rev. Dr. J. Wharton Bradley, 1902-1905; Rev. Jas. Bruce Mackay, 1905-1906; Rev. Samuel Johnson, 1906-1909; Rev. W. J. Bawden, 1909-1910; Rev. G. S. Kerr, 1910-1914; Rev. J. L. Guernsey, 1914-1916; Rev. W. C. Esbenshade, 1916-1920; Rev. Chas. Truax, Rev. Eli Pickersgill, Rev. Wm. R. Ridington, Rev. John E. McVeigh, Rev. Samuel MacConaghy.

The names of those who served in the World War from this church are: J. Harry Bowe, 103rd. Eng. Tr., killed in France; Sergt. Edw. Bannan, Co. H, 112th Regt., France; Lemuel Morgan, Co. H, 112th Regt., France; Clarence Morgan, 103rd Eng. Tr., France; Verne Morgan, Bat. F, Coast Art., France; Reuben Ziegler, 103rd Eng. Tr., France; Howard Wintersteen, 103rd Eng. Tr., France; Leroy Wintersteen, Co. L, 314th Inf., France; Edw. Wintersteen, 307th Quartermaster's Tr., France; Wm. Allison, Co. D, 103rd Eng., France; Wm. G. Bull, Bat. H. Q., Dt. 3, France; Clayton Williams, 1106 Aero Sq., France; John L. Cockill, Hq. Co., 28th Inf., France; Webster Zerbey, 607 Aero Squad., Fort Wayne, Mich.; Geo. Kerstetter, Co. H, 112th Inf., France; Howard Atkinson Co. H, 112th Inf., inj., France; Robt. Bobbs, Co. D, 103rd Eng., France; W. Levan Poticker, Batt. E., 67 C. A. C., France; M. Elizabeth Marquardt, nurse, France; Elsie Mackey, nurse, France.

In conclusion we dare not close this brief history without a word for the ladies in praise of their efforts in organizing the church. During 1861 to 1865, loyal Methodist ladies conceived the idea of forming a Ladies Aid Society, for the purpose of soliciting aid in procuring lint, bandage, etc. for the suffering soldiers. An invitation was sent out to all ladies, and at this time was inaugurated the Ladies Aid Society of Port Carbon. Mrs. Annie Meyers was the president, Mrs. H. C. Walters, secretary, and Mrs. Jos. Beir, treasurer.

Lutheran Church

The organization of the Evangelical Lutheran Church took place in October, 1840, when it was called the Evangelical Lutheran New Jerusalem Church. Rev. W. I. Minnig was the first supply pastor. The

building was located in the northeastern part of town on Coal St. The trustees were: Solomon Hertozog, Isaiah Argood, George Singley, Solomon Breiner, Jacob Krebs, Geo. Haine, Jacob Hulben, and Michael Zerby, Jr. In 1875 the name of the Evangelical Lutheran New Jerusalem Church was changed to St Paul's Evangelical Lutheran.

The congregation was for many years supplied by Pastors from Pottsville and Schuylkill Haven. The first resident pastor was Rev. Geo. M. Buck who took charge of the congregation on June 19, 1893. He, however, only remained three months. His trustees were: Henry Krebs, Fred. Marquarth, Jacob Krebs, Chas. Keogel and Chris Fricky. The deacons were: Wm. Weiand and Jacob Krebs. The treasurer was Joshua Roedenbush.

In September of 1893 the Rev. P. F. J. Becker was elected pastor, and he resigned in 1894. The Rev. Chas. W. Eberwein was elected in May of 1895. During his pastorate, many improvements have been made. The old church building was torn down in 1897 and a new frame building was erected on the same site. Additional ground for cemetery purpose was purchased and a parsonage built. In 1928, having outgrown the old building, the new stone edifice was erected and was dedicated April, 1930. The new stone building is located at the corner of Coal and Cherry Sts. in the centre of town. The present officers of the church are. Pres., Rev. C. W. Eberwein; Secy., C. F. Simpson; Treas. of Church, George Mertz; Treas. of Building Fund, J. J. Miller; Supt. of S. S., Chas. F. Simpson; Elwood Gerhard, Robert Allison, Robert Evans, Geo. Berger, Wm. Evans and Clayton Shirey, Church Council.

Evangelical Church

Evangelical classes had been held in the homes of the people of Port Carbon around 1860 or earlier. In 1861 worship was held in the brown stone house opposite the Rev. Chas. W. Eberwein dwelling on Coal St. Rev. J. Frey was the first pastor of this class. This class and a class in St. Clair was called the Port Carbon circuit. The following year, 1862, Port Carbon and St. Clair were joined to Pottsville which was served by C. S. Haman. In 1863 Port Carbon and St. Clair were detached from Pottsville and again called Port Carbon circuit. The pastor was J. P. Marquardt who served two years. In 1866, J. P. Leib was pastor and in 1867 E. Ely served the appointment. Rev. Ely served two years, when Rev. Seneca Breyfogel, the father of the present Senior Bishop, S. C. Breyfogel, living in Reading, Pa., was appointed to the charge.

It was during this year 1869, that the first Evangelical Church was built on the plot of ground which stands next to the building of the American Legion. Pastor Breyfogel was followed by Rev. Frederick Krecker. In 1872 Rev. D. S. Stauffer was appointed. The following served as pastors: J. R. Workman, 1875 and 1876, D. A. Medlar, 1877, F. Krecker, 1878, J. R. Hensyl 1879 to 1881, H. M. Winget, 1882 and 1883, J. R. Miller, 1884 to 1886, F. P. Lehr, 1887. In 1895 the present United Evangelical Church was built. It was dedicated February 9, 1896. Rev. J. M. Longsdorf was the pastor. There have been over a score of pastors that have since served this charge.

Schools

In 1829, Christopher Young taught in the first school which was located in a building on the corner of Coal and Spring Sts. A school house was built on the site of the present Odd Fellows' Hall in 1838. Shortly after this Dr. John Brown established a private school for his own children and the children of several other people in the town. This

school was held in the building on Washington St. now occupied by the Boy Scouts.

A fourth school was built in 1870 on the site used at present as a playground by the elementary grade school children. There were four rooms in this building which had a very narrow staircase that proved to be a fire hazard when a few years later the school caught fire. Although it was not completely demolished, it was torn down and parts were used to construct a new school which was larger to accommodate the incoming pupils.

A modern red brick school house containing thirteen class rooms, a gymnasium, supply room, and lavatories was erected at the corner of Pine and Cherry Sts. in 1915. In this building, the steps are wide and the halls large and well-lighted. It has been used to house the elementary grades since the completion of the new Junior-Senior High School building; however, the classes of the High School Home Economic and Manual Training Departments still meet here.

In 1931, an up-to-date modernly equipped new High School building was completed. On the first floor are located the library, principal's office, auditorium, girls' and boys' locker rooms, health room, and three class rooms. There are four class rooms and a fully equipped laboratory on the second floor. The third floor is not yet in use.

Banks

One of the first banks in Port Carbon was the Kentucky Bank, located opposite the baseball diamond, where the three brick homes now stand.

Other associations were: Citizens Hall, organized 1872, Saving Fund & Building Associations, May 1867, Franklin Savings Fund & Building, June 1872. Aug. 10, 1922 marked the organization of the Port Carbon State Bank. The people strongly supported the project and showed interest by purchasing the stock. The deposits of the bank ranged from $400,000 to $600,000. The first directors were: H. L. Miller, J. J. Miller, J. B. Fayhey, T. B. Fayhey, P. E. Bassler, Geo. A. Schumacher, Wm. A. Spencer, Robt. W. Bebelheimer, L. C. Conrad, H. W. Conrad, Dr. G. W. Gwinner, L. C. Wingert, C. K. Mertz, Dr. S. F. Ashelman, H. L. Stauffenburg. The officers were: John J. Miller, Pres.; P. E. Bassler, Vice Pres.; G. A. Schumacher, Vice Pres.; T. B. Fayhey, Secy. The Cashiers—John A. Bailey, Tamaqua; C. C. Weber, Port Carbon.

The bank continued in business until Oct., 1931, when it merged with the Miners National Bank of Pottsville.

Post Offices

In 1829, Elisha Warne, the first post master, opened a post office in the Crowley home. Since that time the post office has been located in the Krebs home on Coal St., Jacob Lurwick's home on Market St., the Mertz Building on the corner of Pike and Valley Sts., the Heebner Building, Attorney Paul's home, and Cantwell's Hotel. The present location of the post office is in the Kempski Building on Pike St. Lewis Krebs is the post master.

Organizations

The Independent Order of Odd Fellows, founded in 1831, was one of the first lodges in Port Carbon. Lodges that no longer function here are: Golden Rule Lodge No. 43; Knights of Pythias organized in 1868; Allison Post 144 G. A. R., organized in memory of the four Allison brothers who died in action in the Civil War; and the Emerald Benevolent Association. The lodges still functioning are: Odd Fellows (Schuylkill Lodge No. 27); P. O. S. of A. 134; P. O. of A. 130; Rebeccas.

Good Will Hose Co.

Good Will Hose Company No. 1 was organized on Nov. 7, 1879, in what is known as the old borough building. The first piece of apparatus, a four wheel crab, was purchased by a committee composed of Robert Allison, Sr., Jos. Gorman, and Geo. Medlar. It was housed on Thanksgiving Day, Nov. 27, 1879, after a street parade.

The first fire occurred Aug. 24, 1882, at Dr. Brown's house on Washington St. to the rear of the Conrad Apartments. On April 20, 1886, a second large fire broke out in the Gaines' house which is now known as Mulhall's.

The borough erected a building in 1888 which is used at present by the borough council and the Good Will Hose Co.

When the company was re-organized in 1916, a Waterous Pumper was purchased at a cost of $6,500 by vote of the people. At the same time the Good Will Co. gave $1,000 towards repairing the building and the purchase of a hose. The company also contributed $1,700 for a hot water heating plant which was installed in the borough building; $500 for the excavation of a furnace pit in the cellar; $200 for a folding door which was placed between the council chamber and the hose company rooms. Through the efforts of Fire Chief W. W. Wilson, $375 was collected from the people in town to install the siren or electric whistle.

In 1933, the Good Will boys voted to use funds in the treasury for the purchase of a chemical and hose apparatus which will replace the ones at present in use immediately after delivery in 1934.

The officers are: Pres., W. McQuade; Vice Pres., Michael Fitzpatrick; Recording Secy., Thos. Beddal; Fire Secy., Jos. A. Beir; Treas., Thos. Garis.

Charter members were: W. McQuade, Chas. Snyder, Edw. Mullen, W. Weand, Chas. R. Allison, W. Knowles, Jacob Day, W. W. Turner, John Gibson, W. Sweet, Joseph Allison, John Elliot, Foreman, W. Smith, W. Allison, John Redpath, Thos. R. Beddal, Frank Paul, John Osen, Fred Miller, Jas. Paul, Geo. Needar, Thos. R. McQuade, Thos. Garis, Geo. S. Rogers, Jos. Guiterman, Jas. Gourman, Michael Fitzpatrick, Thos. J. Fayhey, Jos. A. Beir, John Ellingsworth.

Trustees: Thos. Garis, T. R. Beddal, Thos. McQuade.

INDUSTRIES

The citizens of Port Carbon have always shown enterprise and energy in establishing and managing industrial concerns.

Abraham Pott, in 1830, set up the first steam engine north of Reading when he erected his steam saw-mill in Black Valley. After a series of experiments in the utilization of anthracite coal he succeeded in perfecting a grate for this purpose. In 1831 Mr. Pott also erected a brick yard for the manufacture of bricks.

The first grist mill was built in 1838 by Conrad Staub and Lawrence F. Whitney; to the south of this mill T. H. Wintersteen erected a foundry and machine shop in 1839.

Another foundry and machine shop was established by Alfred Brook in 1842. This shop was burned down and after it was rebuilt in 1863 by Allison and Bannan was known as the Franklin Iron Works, operated under Robert Allison. Later, the business was taken over by Charles and Frank Allison. From 1900 to 1913, Mr. Cathers owned the business, which was then purchased by the Coxe Traveling Grate Co. This company enlarged the plant and employed a very large number of men. About 1920

the Combustion Engineering Corporation of New York took over the plant and made further additions. This company ceased operations in 1926 and in 1929 sold the plant to the Chamber of Commerce. The present owners, J. Robert Bazley, Inc., purchased the plant from the Chamber of Commerce in July, 1931. The Franklin Iron Works, Allisons, and Cathers manufactured pumps, while the Iron Castings Co. did a general machine business. Grates for large industrial boilers were manufactured by the Coxe Traveling Grate Co., a function continued by the Combustion Engineering Corporation. The plant itself consists of seven buildings and covers a territory of approximately four acres.

In 1860, Charles Baber established a planing mill for the manufacturing of sashes, blinds, and doors.

Zaccur P. Boyer built á rolling mill in 1865 and in a short time added a furnace to his building which was later taken over by the P. & R. Railway Co.

The first colliery to be worked within the borough limits of Port Carbon was the Salem Hill which was opened as a drift by Abraham Pott in 1829 and was worked for several years. Around 1833, J. G. Hawes sank a slope to the same vein and worked it until 1839. Today there is a mine in the west end of Port Carbon known as the Salem Hill Mine.

The first iron bridge in the borough was built across Mill Creek on Coal St. some time in 1863.

Among the first stores in Port Carbon was Gwinner's Bakery Shop in the building now occupied by Mulhall's Garage. On the corner of Pike and Second Sts. was a shoe shop, owned by Ross Bull, who was also an amateur dentist. Although he pulled teeth, he did not fill them nor make false ones. Daniel Knittle had a furniture store on South Coal St., and in a small room back of the shop he made chairs. A music and sewing machine shop was kept by Messrs. Heebner and Paul. The ladies of Port Carbon had an opportunity to obtain fashionable head wear at the Millinery Shop owned by Peter Bossler. Later, this shop was converted into a general store.

About thirty-five years ago there was a newspaper published in Port Carbon which was called "The Echo." It was published for only a short time.

At the present time, the main industries operated in Port Carbon are two factories owned by H. L. Miller and Son and the Phillips-Jones Corporation.

Suburbs Of Port Carbon

Schoentown, a settlement on the outskirts of Port Carbon, was settled by Phillip Schoen. Graytown was laid out by Robert Gray. In the same year, Abraham Pott and J. P. Gardner laid out Acretown, located in the territory surrounding Mill and Acre Sts. Rhoadestown, sometimes known as Rhoades' Addition, was settled by Daniel J. Rhoades in 1829. The Bazley shops now occupy this site. Irishtown, including Valley St. and its surroundings, was so-called because of the nationality of the men who worked in the mines.

In 1830, the above mentioned towns merged into the borough of Port Carbon.

It is said that one of the Indian trails of Pennsylvania passed through Port Carbon. Irishtown and Belmont Hill were on the regular route of the stage coach.

Monument Hill

Monument Hill at one time was a grazing field for goats. It was always recognized by the name of Goat Hill and its projecting rocks were known as goat rocks.

On July 4, 1906, the present monument, erected in memory of the living and dead war veterans, was unveiled.

From this hill the surrounding towns can be seen.

War Records

Port Carbon has always willingly given her sons in time of war when her country called them. Records show that there is one unknown veteran of the War of 1812 buried in the Lutheran Cemetery. Other men who are known to have served in 1812 were Samuel Boyer and Samuel Gilbert.

During the Civil War, mothers who were called upon to share their sons with their country responded nobly. One of the chief of these was Mrs. Allison who gave four sons to the cause in 1863 and 1864, all of whom were lost in battle. Five hundred and thirteen men served in the army; unfortunately, it was impossible to list the names of all these brave soldiers.

In the Spanish American War 12 more men showed their loyalty by enlisting for service.

Again during the World War many young men willingly did their patriotic duty. These are today represented by the J. Harry Bowe Post of the American Legion.

From the Library Docket and records kept by Capt. John Deevers, Port Carbon, were obtained the names of men who served during the Civil War in Company H of the 129th Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteers.

Sergt. John B. Steel, July 17, 1862; Sergt. John Woolley, July 17, 1862; Sergt. Geo. Winnes, July 17, 1862; Sergt. Samuel Errgood, July 17, 1862; Sergt. Wm. Quoit, July 17, 1862.

Corp. John Elliot, July 17, 1862; Corp. Wm. Webster, July 17, 1862; Corp. Jabez Wooley, July 17, 1862; Corp. Wm. Bracefield, July 17, 1862; Corp. Jas. Martin, July 17, 1863; Corp. Jas. Walsh, July 17, 1862; Corp. Geo. Leich, July 21, 1862; Corp. Martin Temptist, July 24, 1862; Corp. Chas. May, Aug. 1, 1862; Corp. Cyrus Schucker, July 24, 1862.

Pvt. Samuel Ash, Aug. 1, 1862; Pvt. John Andrews, Aug. 1, 1862; Pvt. Wm. Broughall, July 24, 1862; Pvt. Geo. Bracey, July 24, 1862; Pvt. Franklin Bucker, July 24, 1862; Pvt. Geo. Barr, July 24, 1862; Pvt. Henry Bowman, Aug. 1. 1862; Pvt. John Brown, Aug. 1, 1862; Pvt. Peter Bumbersback, July 21, 1862; Pvt. Edw. Connors, July 24, 1862; Pvt. Jas. Connors, July 24, 1862; Pvt. Jas. Crowley, July 24, 1862; Pvt. Wm. Davis, Aug. 15, 1862; Pvt. Elias DeLong, Aug. 1, 1862; Pvt. Griffith Davis, Aug. 16, 1862; Pvt. D. Juges, Aug. 16, 1862.

Pvt. Chas. Eck, July 24, 1862; Pvt. Oswell Ford, July 17, 1862; Pvt. Geo. Freed, Aug. 1, 1862; Pvt. Lewis W. Gorgas, Aug. 1, 1862; Pvt. Wm. Grove, July 24, 1862; Pvt. Peter Haine, Aug. 1, 1862; Pvt. David Howard, July 17, 1862; Pvt. Wellington P. Hause, Aug. 1, 1862; Pvt. John Haslem, July 24, 1862; Pvt. Jos. Holloway, July 17, 1862; Pvt. Jos. Jones, July 24, 1862; Pvt. Eli Lees, July 24, 1862; Pvt. Jas. Lime, Aug. 1, 1862; Pvt. Isaiah Lime, Aug. 1, 1862; Pvt. Enoch Lambert, Aug. 1, 1862; Pvt. David Lewis, July 24, 1862

Pvt. Henry Lerch, July 24, 1862; Pvt. John Mullin, July 24, 1862; Pvt. John McCabe, July 24, 1862; Pvt. Jos. McCabe, July 24, 1862; Pvt. John B. McCord, July 20, 1862; Pvt. John Major, July 24, 1862; Pvt. Isaac Weff, Aug. 16, 1862; Pvt. Tobias Olliver, Aug. 1, 1862; Pvt. Wm. W. Ossman, Aug. 16, 1862; Pvt. Geo. W. Payne, Aug. 1, 1862; Pvt. Thos. Roe, July 24, 1862; Pvt. John Roe, July 24, 1862; Pvt. Jas. Robbins, Aug. 13, 1862.

Pvt. John Richard, July 24, 1862;

Pvt. Robert Reed, July 24, 1862; Pvt. David Sneden, July 24, 1862; Pvt. John W. Smith, July 17, 1862; Pvt. Wm. Sneden, Aug. 1, 1862; Pvt. Richard Shoener, July 24, 1862; Pvt. Wm. Spang, Aug. 11, 1862; Pvt. Simon Uhler, July 24, 1862; Pvt. Chas. Beaumont, July 26, 1862; Pvt. Jacob W. Wertley, July 25, 1862.

Others who served at this time were: John Allison, Co. C, 96th Penna. Vol.; Alexander Allison, Co. C, 96th Penna. Vol.; James Allison, Co. G, 48th, Penna. Vol.; Geo. Allison, Co. K, 56th Penna. Vol.; Lieut. Wm. McQuade, Co. L, 7th Pa. Vol.; Edw. Perry, Co. E, 17th Reg. T. P. V. M.; Edw. Perry, Jr., Co. E, 53rd Regt. P. S. M.; Uriah Gane; John Meddter; Adam Knowles; C. Orlander Tiffany; Wm. Smith; Amat Rossiter; Preston Rossiter; Samuel Rossiter; Wm. Umbenhauer; John Runkle, Priv., Co. 151st Reg. P? Vol.; Jos. Simmerman; Chas. Snyder; Daniel Purcell, and Joseph Wolfe, Spanish-American.

In this same record is also a list of deserters who were arrested in 1863; for Nov.—8; Nov.—13; Dec.—8.

Also in this book are the minutes of a meeting of the G. A. R., held May 16, 1870, for the purpose of setting aside May 30 as a legal holiday. Committees were appointed to arrange a program, purchase flowers, and to place flags on the graves of the veterans.

West Brunswick Settled as Early as 1742

(From "Pottsville Republican"-"Morning Paper," September 13-15, 1934)

The history of the towns and townships adjacent to the township of West Brunswick is so interwoven with its early history that each of them may rightfully claim a part of its history as also belonging to the district affected. This fact obtained from the time that settlers began occupying this territory in early colonial times, until 1834 when West Brunswick was finally separated from contiguous territory and reached its present geographical status. No doubt a perusal of the material of these surrounding districts will give an inkling of the history and the historic points of interest in this township.

"Braunsweig uber den Blauen Bergen" was originally a part of Berks County which was established in 1752 from parts of Philadelphia County on the east of the Schuylkill River, and of Chester and Lancaster on the west side of the River. The Lenni Lenapes, or Delaware Indians, who inhabited Eastern Pennsylvania may have used the Delaware valley on the east and the Susquehanna valley on the west more frequently for their travels but this section, no doubt, was frequently infested with bands of roving Indians bent on hunting excursions. For this reason, Brunswick may have developed its peculiar Indian history of the pre-Revolutionary period.

There is evidence that the settlers came as early as 1742. These with any earlier ones who may have come, no doubt were squatters, for the lands north of the Kittatinny Mountains from the Susquehanna to the Delaware were purchased from the Indians in 1749. This purchase gave the whites the right to the soil and it is probable that many adventurous persons took advantage of the security it seemed to afford and became permanent settlers in this neighborhood, selecting for their permanent place of residence a beautiful spot and from the soil of which they could wrest a living.

The Indians

To protect themselves against the Indians the inhabitants built forts along the Blue Mountains. These were placed at such distance from each other that rangers could travel from one to the other by a day's march.

Fort Lebanon, otherwise called Fort Bohundy or Fort William, was built in 1754 in West Brunswick Township on the Pine Creek, a branch of the Schuylkill River. About 60 years ago the last vestige of the foundation stones of this fort was removed by the owner of the field. At that time there was a spring near the spot where the remaining walls indicated the site of the fort. This spring, no doubt, was within the enclosure or stockade.

Many atrocities were perpetrated by the Indians on the settlers of the section. The usual massacres and scalpings were among the horrors endured. Homes were burned. Families hurried, with the few belongings they could transport, to their friends and relatives across the Blue Mountains. The first Zion's "Red" Church building was burnt

by one of these marauding bands of Indians. In "Tales of the Blue Mountains" published by the Schuylkill County Historical Society is given an excellent account of the foregoing. Military reports by Capt. Morgan are cited to substantiate the actuality.

The D. A. R. has placed a large boulder to mark the site of Fort Lebanon.

Near Orwigsburg, close to the foot of Sculp's Hill, also near Fort Lebanon, on the farm known as the Gherity's Farm, have been found evidences of Indian encampments. Different types of arrow heads and other flint instruments have been collected from those spots.

Agriculture

West Brunswick Township is primarily an agricultural district. Its greatest assessment value is in farm land and the buildings appurtenant thereto.

It is rich in good farm soils. In the Sculp's Hill and in part of the northern section the soil is mostly a type of dark shale, well adapted for farming and productive of good crops, unless the season has a low average rainfall, as this soil is very porous. The southern portion of the township is partly covered by decayed Medina sand stone. Some of the lowlands contain a heavy clay not suitable for general farming but practically useful for pasture and for the growth of hay crops. The best soil is a red shale. This soil is highly productive, very retentive of moisture, readily cultivated, easily fertilized. This type of soil is found in scattered portions of the township. Much of the rich Reddale sector is covered with it and it extends across a wide strip to and through the Molino sector. There are several ridges of limestone. At one time, some of this stone was quarried and burned for commercial lime.

Industries

The early industries may have been small but they were numerous. A partial account of them is as follows:

A forge was erected some time previous to 1850 in the Port Clinton gap by George Ege, a large landowner of the district, who was interested in iron-working. After a number of years of activity it was converted into a rolling mill by Calvin Bertolette. Later, it was owned by Robert Inness, of Pottsville, and after a varied success it was purchased by Mr. McDonald and several others at sheriff's sale. This establishment was operated by steam and water power, and at times as many as 100 men were employed. The plant was badly damaged during the freshet of 1850.

Along the Pine Creek and the Schuylkill River were situated a number of water-driven sawmills. These mills used a saw similar to the cross cut but fastened in a vertical position instead of the common circular saw used in the modern mills.

The grist mills of the township were four in number—two along the Pine Creek and two along the Schuylkill River. The local names of the mills were Moyer's, Faust's, Stein's, Schick and Wamsher's. These mills were used to grind feed for the live stock of the neighboring farmers. Much flour was also manufactured. The miller exacted "toll" or bartered with the farmer in lieu of a money fee for the cost of milling.

A distillery was operated on the Stephen Farm by the Stephen family, who were English Quakers. A small paint mill existed on the Ludwig tract.

All of these industries belong to the past.

The Delaware Seamless Tube Works, an Allegheny Steel Corporation mill, is an important business concern of the township. The plant is situated close to Auburn and most of its employees come from that borough. The seamless tubes manufactured here are a very valuable quality.

The peculiar method of manufacture, as the name implies, and the severe tests to which the tubes can be put give them their peculiar value.

Schools Among First In County

Brunswick Township was the first district in the County to consider the education of its children. This early training may have been only rudimentary in character—ability to read the Bible, study the catechism, keep an account—but the religious sentiment, the conservative attitude of these early fathers and mothers was indicative of their German acestry.

In the Church Articles of 1770 of Zion's Church provision was made for the election of a schoolmaster. In a publication by the Historical Society of Schuylkill County reference is made that a school was taught at the church as early as 1765. In the church book it says that a separate building was erected on the church lands in 1786 for "The Schoolmaster's family and the Christian School." This school was abandoned in 1856. One of the living pupils of this school (1934) is Mandon Sechler. Ludwig Zimmerman and George Orwig were the deacons of the Church at the time of the erection of the building.

Some of the men who taught in the church school were: Michael Rein, Christopher Baltie, Heinrich Goettel, Mr. Sprickman, Mr. Fetzer. As mentioned, the course of study may have been rudimentary but the reading of the church articles will show it to have been fundamental in the life of every Christian boy and girl and a specific obligation for every parent.

There were several "Pay Schools" in the community. One of them was situated about one-fourth mile north of Zion's "Red" Church. This building was razed within the last few years. Daniel C. Boyer taught the first public school in this independent district in 1857. It was known as Church district. Other teachers were Thos. Schall, Mr. Fisher, Benneville Kimmel. The school was later moved to the "Cord Mill" on the Kimmel farm. In 1866, a school house was built at Pine Dale, the present site of the school for this community. The land for the original public school of the district was donated by Mr. Faust.

Isaac Moyer donated a plot for a school house in Pine Dale. The building is still standing as a ruin near the Deer Lake tract. This school, vacated in 1855, served the community as a pay school. From fifty to seventy-five cents a month was the nominal tuition charge per pupil per month. Two of the teachers in it were Tilghman Diefenderfer and a Mr. DeFrehn.

After the Free School Act of 1834 was passed a vote was taken (1835) by the qualified voters of the township for acceptance but the move was defeated, because the citizens feared excessive taxes. In fact, the township as a whole was forced to adopt the Public School system by order of the court.

The first independent group to consolidate itself into a public school unit was Stephen's district, which adopted the plan and formulated its procedure in 1850. The rate of tax was 2¾ mills in 1857. Eight independent districts composed West Brunswick Township. At present, there are seven teachers employed in the township.

Churches In Township

In the year 1750, Peter Weyman purchased from the sons of Wm. Penn all of the tract of land extending from Port Clinton to within a mile of Orwigsburg, with the exception of a few smaller tracts, one of which was bought by Peter Schmelgert, who became very prominent in the life of the community. Other Germans followed and the original tracts were sold and resold, divided and redivided, until quite a number of families populated the township, including what is known as Sculp's Hill, which did not originally belong to the Weyman tract. It was at this time, 1755, that these German settlers, nearly all of whom were Lutherans, feeling the want of something to unite them into a closer community and fellowship of sympathy in their trials, organized themselves into a congregation, and publicly held religious services. They decided to organize a congregation on the basis of the principles they had learned and practiced in the fatherland. In this undertaking they were encouraged by the Rev. Daniel Schumacher, who visited them occasionally to preach to them, baptize their children, and instruct and confirm their young people.

The men most prominently mentioned in this work were Peter Schmelgert, Peter Weyman, Jacob Schaeffer, Michael Deibert, Gottfried Beyer, Paul Heim, Philip Paussman, Christian Schaber, Casper Prag, George Hunsinger, and the Rev. Schumacher.

The first church was a small structure, built of roughly hewed logs, and only intended to meet the temporary wants of the people. The second church was dedicated in 1770 by the Rev. Daniel Schumacher with elaborate dignity. A Brief of License was granted by John Penn, Lieutenant Governor of the Province of Pennsylvania to Conrad Rein and George Reinhard, two members of the church, "to make collection from the benevolent and well disposed" to defray the expense of erecting this building.

The third church edifice was dedicated in 1803 during the pastorate of Rev. John Obenhausen. The family names of Hammer, Rickert, Orwig, Dreher, Heim, Matz appear prominently at this time. The trustee of the church was George Kimmel.

In 1809 the Lutheran congregation formulated and adopted a church constitution, which after more than 100 years still breathes the spirit of the modern Church. The part of the constitution affecting the Church School is automatically non-operative.

The Reformed congregation began its existence in 1795 as Christ Church. They had a separate church until 1832 when the two congregations, Reformed and Lutheran, agreed to worship as a union church with equal property rights. Members of both congregations who are lovers of friendship have tried to foster the harmony existing here for more than a century.

Some of the pulpit furniture in the present church building has been in use for at least 130 years. Among the articles are the goblet pulpit, the canopy to the pulpit, and the altar. There is a traditional tale that one of the chairs was used by Henry Melchior Muhlenberg, the organizer of the Lutheran Ministerium of Pennsylvania. The Pipe Organ still in use during every church service in the church aduitorium was installed in the year 1808. This organ is in a very good state of preservation.

The cemetery adjoining "Red" Church is in a well kept condition. The members of the congregations with their host of friends take great pride in this burial ground. It is

one of the oldest in this part of Pennsylvania. It has been said that in "looking up ancient graves none seem to be any older than can be found in the cemetery adjoining the Red Church near Orwigsburg."

Eighteen Lutheran ministers and thirteen Reformed ministers have served their respective congregations at "Red" Church as pastors. The longest period of service by a Reformed pastor was 48 years, and by a Lutheran pastor, 22 years.

The congregation of the Kimmel's Church of God was organized in 1852. George Kimmel owned the surrounding farm land. The farm buildings were those of what is called the Mission Farm. George Kimmel donated the land on which was erected the church, a brick building. This congregation belonged to the German Eldership but later separated from it and joined with the English Eldership. The leading men in the organization of the congregation were: George Kimmel, Andreas Kimmel, Samuel Kimmel, Joseph Moyer, Samuel Moyer, Abraham Moyer, Wm. Moyer, and Daniel Moyer. The first three men were brothers, and the last five men, also, were brothers.

The Evangelical Church is situated in the eastern end of the township on the Catawissa highway leading from Molino to Drehersville. The members of this sect worshipped at different places in the community. Sometimes they held meetings at the homes of the members. They also had a regularly organized Sunday School in the old log school house located on the farm now owned by Frank Mohl. This building was removed in 1866. At some time previous to this a stone building was erected at the lower corner of the present cemetery about 300 feet from the building now standing. This building was destroyed by fire. About the year 1868 the frame structure which now houses this worshipping congregation was erected. Charles Miller, Benjamin Moll, Samuel Medlar, William Dreher and Francis Seltzer were the most active men in the congregation at that time.

Early and Present Inhabitants

As told before the early settlers of West Brunswick Township were Germans. As in all townships there has been an immigration and emigration of some of the citizenry so that it would take much genealogical study to determine closely how many of the descendants of the old inhabitants are still living in the district.

The following will show that the people of the township were much concerned about the welfare of their country at large. At least fifteen veterans of the Revolutionary War are buried in the "Red" Church cemetery. Research has established the fact that eighteen men, whose names were given in one list, served their country during the War of 1812. Twenty-one Civil War soldiers lie buried in the "Red" Church cemetery. How many more lie in neighboring cemeteries has not been determined.

There are those who have served their country and community well in political and civil life as well. Some of the families of the township have traced their lineage in America to the year 1713. There is a tradition, rather well founded, that the direct ancestors of some families entertained Washington while he was President of the United States. Some of the descendants are affiliated with the D. A. R. Chapter of Orwigsburg.

There will be given here only a few names of those who were reared in West Brunswick but went beyond its borders and achieved success: the late Dr. Chas. Dreher, Dr. John Matz, the Rev. M. Leroy Wuchter, the Rev. Clinton Baver.

"The Tunnel"

At the extreme western end of the township is a community called "The Tunnel." In 1821 a report was made as follows: " 'There have been completed on the upper section of the river a tunnel and the canal and locks at that time commenced . . .' The tunnel referred to was in West Brunswick Township. The excavation of it was considered a prodigious undertaking, and it was a curiosity in its day. Many persons came from Philadelphia by stage coach or private conveyance, also from other places, to see the great tunnel and to witness the spectacle of the passage of boats under and through a mountain. The wonder and admiration with which our ancestors regarded this work—so simple and commonplace in our day—afford a striking incident of the great advancement since then in civil engineering. This tunnel was the first driven in North America. It was commenced in 1818 and completed in 1821. It was originally 450 feet in length, arched 75 feet from each end. It was reduced in length and enlarged from time to time until at length, in 1855-56, it was made a thorough cut."

A short distance below the tunnel there was a series of locks. Here stood a store. The store-keeper kept as a stock in trade such things that boatmen might need for themselves, for their families, who usually traveled with them, and for the teams. Groceries, articles of clothing, grain and forage for the mules and horses, even liquor, were the principal items. This portion of the old canal is more or less of a local fisher's "paradise."

Transportation

The transportation facilities of the township are on a par with other townships. The main line of the Reading, the Shamokin Division of the Reading, the Pennsylvania, and the Lehigh Valley pass through it, affording sufficient railway service.

The Pottsville-Reading state highway passes through the middle of the township approximately. There are connecting links of state highways toward Auburn, Landingville, Drehersville, McKeansburg, the Reddale Valley, affording convenient travel on well-kept roads. The township highways of dirt construction are of the same type as found in all country districts, the old "sideroad" with dust in the summer and mud during the winter.

Traditions

Among the earliest settlers on Sculp's Hill was Paul Heim. From the very beginning he was very friendly with the Indians. If any of them visited his log cabin he placed before them a bowl of bread and milk and other enticing eatables. It is said the Indians of his acquaintance never attempted to harm him although his firearms lay on the racks above the fireplace in the kitchen.

Heim owned and used a white horse in his farm work and rode the horse in his travels. The Indians stood in superstitious awe of him because of this white beast, thinking there was something supernatural about such an animal and the man who rode it.

One day while he was working in the fields he saw the tops of the stalks in the corn patch close by shaking as though some one was approaching. Watching closely he saw that some strange Indians were stealthily creeping through the corn toward him. Tradition says that Heim could change himself into any object he wished. Running a short distance he suddenly changed himself into a stump. When the Indians emerged from the corn field they were dumbfounded to

learn that he had completely vanished. One Indian decided to wait until he should reappear from his hiding place. The Indian took as a point of vantage the stump which he saw nearby, sitting down upon it. When the object of his wait had not reappeared at sundown the Indian slunk away into the deepening shadows of night. After the Indian's disappearance the stump changed again into its former human shape and Heim returned home to tell his family about his experience. It was said that the muscles of his shoulders ached for weeks from the strain of having held the Indian the whole afternoon.

John Dreher, who came from Oley Township, Berks County, selected a spot for his permanent home about one mile east of Red Church. He erected a log cabin from the logs of trees cut on the premises. This was accomplished by the most strenuous kind of labor for he was alone. He also built a log stable as a shelter for any animals he might acquire and for storage for his crops.

Having completed his building operations he returned to Oley for his newly-wedded wife and such household goods as they could carry. He brought a cow also. His wrestling with the soil for a living proceeded without any undue incidents.

During the Revolutionary War John Dreher had served under Washington in the defense of Philadelphia and was wounded in the battle of Germantown. He was a man of powerful physique and in this battle carried a wounded comrade to safety. He himself was so severely wounded that he could not give his services to his country during the remainder of the war.

John had a sister Barbara. Barbara had a fiance, but a short time before the day selected for the marriage her lover was killed by Indians. John was bitter toward the Redmen ever afterwards. One day, long after the death of Barbara's lover, John went to the barn to feed his cow at midday. He saw two Indians apparently asleep behind the stable, comfortable in the heat of the noonday sun. Hastily he returned to the house for his rifle. His wife remonstrated with him, detaining him for a short while. When he emerged from the house the Indians had escaped through the forest.

Both John Dreher and his sister Barbara are buried in the Red Church cemetery.

Family Cemetery Plots

There are a number of family cemetery plots in West Brunswick. At least five of them can be located. In some of them the tombstones have been buried by the owners of the farms and the lots are farmed with the adjoining fields. One of these plots is overgrown with trees and now appears as a small woodland tract. Another one is surrounded by a stone wall and appears like many a family cemetery in other counties.

Burkhardt Moser First Tamaqua Settler

(From "Pottsville Republican"-"Morning Paper," September 17-20, 1934)

The history of Tamaqua was written and compiled by the following committee of the High School: June Bankes, Alice Boroscious, Herbert Cobley, Ruth Darker, Dorothy Hassan, Alrena Heilner, Jack Kershner, Eldon Leidinger, Edward Shain, Dorothy Sinn, David Springer, Robert Stegmeier, Pearl Steigerwalt, Sarah Steigerwalt, Pauline Surdock, Ida Townsend, Anna Whalen, Robert Williston.

Until 1799, no white man had set foot in this little valley bounded by mountains through which the Little Schuylkill cut a gap on its course to the sea. Indians of the Tuscarora and Delaware tribes of the great Iroquois family roamed through the virgin forests.

The Indians did not use Tamaqua as a permanent residence, but more as a hunting ground with their camp site in the Indian field (now a part of Dutch Hill), where numerous stone arrow-heads, hatchets and other articles used by them have been found. This camp site, being near the Schuylkill, Wabash, and Panther Creek streams, was probably permanent during the hunting season.

Into this setting in 1799, came Burkhardt Moser, a German, who had previously settled in Northampton County, now Lehigh.

In order to improve his condition and better provide for the wants of his growing family, Mr. Moser settled at the junction of the Panther Creek and the Little Schuylkill. He was accompanied by his son, Jacob, and by John Kershner.

In September 1799, Moser built a saw-mill, the first building of any kind on land of the present site of Tamaqua, which also answered as a home for his family until 1801, when he built a log house at the base of Dutch Hill, only half of which now stands on the rear of the premises of Wm. Nahf, just off the present corner of Broad and Market Sts.

Mr. Moser was an industrious man. He cleared the forest around his mill and laid out a farm, but he never dreamed that beneath his fields lay seams of coal worth millions of dollars.

The discovery of coal in Tamaqua was made by Burkhardt Moser and his son, Jacob, in 1817. In the meantime, however, agriculture and the manufacture of lumber were relied upon to support the infant town. For twenty years these remained the chief means of support. Moser claimed the sloping land now known as the East End and Dutch Hill, besides much of what is now the Middle Ward.

Before Moser and his son found anthracite in Tamaqua, Philip Ginter had discovered at Summit Hill the black stones which burned. The few settlers in this section, and the people in other towns, like Phila., were skeptical at first about the new fuel.

But soon news of its qualities spread, although means of communication in those days was necessarily slow. The mining industry had a slow, doubtful start. Moser and his sons mined a quantity of the fuel, but at first the amount was inconsiderable.

The first sales were made to blacksmiths. Some was taken in sacks over the Blue Mountains and

sold at from seven to twelve cents a bushel. Sales increased rapidly until 1832, when the records show a market of 14,000 tons, and by 1874, Tamaqua alone had given the markets of the world more than 23,000,000 tons of coal.

For a time the coal industry of this vicinity was seriously crippled by the destruction of breakers and other mining property by the Mollie Maguires.

Burkhardt Moser had eleven children. On Feb. 15, 1832 his wife, Catharine, died. Her passing was the first death of a white adult in Tamaqua. Before her death, Mrs. Moser had the pleasure of seeing the first wedding performed in Tamaqua. This took place on Christmas day, 1820, when their daughter, Barbara, who was then 24, became the bride of John Whetstone, in the old log hut. The bridal couple lived in this house for a year, when they built a home of their own.

The first baby to be born was Mary Kershner in 1808. She was a daughter of John Kershner and his wife.

John Kershner, himself, was the second adult to die in Tamaqua, following Mrs. Moser about two months later in that same year, 1832.

An interesting feature of the town's history is that the settlers intended to name it Tuscarora, after the tribe of Indians, but before this was done other settlers gave that name to the town four miles west, now bearing that name.

As the waters of the Tamaqua creek, now known as the Wabash, passed through the tract, it was decided to name the infant town Tamaqua Honing. This name in the Indian language signifies Beaver Place, Tamaqua meaning Place and Honing, beaver. Eventually Honing was dropped and the name remained Tamaqua.

Other authorities say Tamaqua means "Running Water", and that its name was derived from a stream called Tamaqua, or Little Schuylkill. Tamaqua, they say, is a corruption of Tankamochk, "Little Beaver" and with the suffix "hanna" means "Little Beaver Stream." The Moravian Missionary, Rev. John Heckwelder, in his works on Indian History of Pennsylvania, gives the name Tamaqua-hanna, and from the same Indian derivation, it is known as "Running Water." All of this is at odds with the data in possession of Justice Sam Beard, which credits the town with being named after an Indian chief.

Tamaqua grew slowly, and up to 1829, when it was first laid out, had a population of but 150. In 1832, when the town was incorporated, it had a population of 300. It was formally chartered by the court, Dec. 7, 1851.

The first town officers were: John Franklin, Chief Burgess; David Hunter, President of the Council; Chas. D. Cox, Wm. Cadwell, Wm. George, John N. Speece and Lewis Audenried, Councilmen. The present burgess is Henry Fey who took office, January 1934.

The population was originally German, with the introduction of an Irish element a little later. The present mixed population is the result of European immigrations within the last forty years. This was mostly composed of miners, who were attracted to the place by the phenomenal developments in the coal industry, while enterprising business men took advantage of the prospect for successful trade developments. According to the 1930 United States census, the population now numbers 12,936.

Development of Education

Early in 1830, the village demanded a school house, which was

erected on the corner of Broad and Nescopec Sts. This structure was called the "Little School House," being 18x20 feet in dimensions. For many years it also served as an election house, a place for religious worship, and public meetings in general.

In 1834 Tamaqua accepted the free school act, and was the first community in Schuylkill County to adopt the new public school system. Among the first directors were Hon. Benj. Heilner, Dr. D. Hunter and A. H. Heuel. Judge Heilner and Dr. Hunter served as Tamaqua school directors for more than 30 years.

Among the early teachers were Rev. Schellhart, John Sims, Miss Rhoda Dodson, Miss Van Dusen and Miss McCaffy.

In 1855, Robt. F. Ditchburn began to teach in a school house situated on the corner of Pine and Elm Sts. He rose gradually until he became the first superintendent in 1858, serving the schools for 53 years. During his administration, the North Ward, Market St., Pine St., and the present Junior High School buildings were erected.

In 1887, J. F. Derr, a graduate of Kutztown Normal School, took over the duties of teacher and principal of the Tamaqua High School, then conducted on the third floor of the North Ward building, assisting Supt. Ditchburn, who taught algebra and geometry, while Mr. Derr taught all other subjects.

In 1888, under the direction of Mr. Derr, the first commencement exercises were held in the North War building. In 1890, the first public commencement was held in Allen's Opera House, Cedar St.

In 1895, the High School department was transferred to the present Junior High School building. At that time the courses were increased, and Rev. Wm. Christ served as an assistant to Dr. Derr until 1908, when the latter became superintendent of the schools, which position he held for 19 years, until his retirement in 1927. Geo. W. Gulden became Mr. Derr's successor as principal of the High School. In 1908, with three teachers, Tamaqua High School was standardized as a second-class high school. In 1911, the High School building was enlarged, and in the same year the school was rated as first-class. In 1913, the graduation class numbered 13, with four teachers and 90 pupils composing the Senior High School.

As Tamaqua continued to grow, in order to accommodate the ever-increasing school population, the Penn St. and Arlington St. buildings were constructed in 1915. In 1920, the Pine St. and the South Ward buildings were both improved and enlarged, and in 1925, the North Ward building was razed and a new 10-room building was erected at that location. In 1927, when Mr. Derr closed a long and interesting school career, upon the shoulders of F. G. Horner was placed the mantle of responsibility and the duty of continuing school progress in the most progressive age of all time. Mr. Horner came to Tamaqua as a member of the High School faculty in 1913. He is a graduate of Juniata College, with an M. A. from Columbia. When Mr. Horner assumed superintendency, R. B. Stapleton was advanced to the principalship of the Senior High School. In 1927, the new High School building was constructed on High St. The erection of this building marked the beginning of a new era. The Tamaqua Public School System became more modernized, with the upper grades as Junior and Senior High Schools. The 6:3:3

plan was adopted. The plan includes in the first group, grades one to six; in the second group, grades from seven to nine, or Junior High School, of which H. W. Slanker is principal, and in the third group, grades from 10 to 12, or Senior High School.

In 1916, music was introduced into the schools, to be followed in a decade or more by art. 1928 saw also several other innovations—the installation of a school nurse, the opening of an opportunity room, and a course in manual training. In 1930, home economics was introduced into the Junior High School. The employes of the Tamaqua school district now number 88, of whom 74 are teachers. A full time attendance officer is employed. The school census for the year 1933-34 was 2,726.

Parochial School

St. Jerome's Church, of Tamaqua, which observed its hundredth anniversary in July, has made steady progress during the past quarter century.

Dedicated by Bishop Kendrick, of Phila., in 1834, the church served the parish quietly for three-quarters of a century. Its latest cycle really begins with the pastorate of the late Rev. Henry W. Baker, who came to Tamaqua from Weatherly in 1912.

From the first, the new pastor saw the need of a school, and laid his plans accordingly. But unfortunately, the World War came, and Father Baker was forced to abandon his plans temporarily.

But always it remained his goal, and finally, in 1919, he launched a $50,000 drive for funds. Response came, not only from members of his congregation, but from business men and persons of other denominations.

Ground for the parochial school was broken in August, 1919. A vacant lot adjoining the church was the site. It had a sharp slope, and solid rock was encountered several feet below the surface. But the work continued without interruption until, just a year later, the building was completed at a cost of $100,000, and dedicated with solemn ceremonies by Cardinal Dougherty, archbishop of Phila.

While the school was being built, the house adjoining was bought and remodeled into a convent for the nuns. Nine members of the order of the Sister Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary were assigned to teach the children.

Under their direction, classes began in September, 1920, with more than 300 children enrolled in the first to seventh grades. The other grades were omitted for lack of students, but were added one by one each year as the classes were promoted.

The High School department was inaugurated in September, 1922, with a freshmen class of 13. With the expansion of the High School, the faculty was increased to 11 teachers.

The school progressed steadily until it was ready to apply for a state charter in 1927, when the first class of six, three boys and three girls, was graduated. In February of that year, an inspector from the State Department of Public Instruction visited the school, and made a thorough examination of its personnel, students, equipment, methods of teaching, etc. Two weeks later, Father Baker was notified that the school had been granted a first-class rating.

The first graduation exercises were held June 14, 1927, when diplomas were awarded to Francis J. Beyrent, Michael Casino, Margaret Flynn, Ruth Hanlon, John Hegarty and Mary Moran.

It was a triumphant occasion. But it was marred by the absence of him who had made the triumph possible, and to whom it would have meant most. For Father Baker, after suffering from a long illness, died May 8th, five weeks before he could have enjoyed the first fruits of his labors.

At the time of his death, the school enrollment had reached the 400 mark At the present time, there are about 400 families in the parish, and 500 children enrolled in the school.

The Churches

Religious services were first held in Tamaqua in 1816 by Rev. John Schellhart, a German Lutheran minister. The Roman Catholics built the first church in Tamaqua in 1833. For a number of years the Protestants held services in the school house and later in a Union church building, but finally they erected buildings to accommodate their own congregations. The pioneer Sunday School was organized in 1831 and included children of all Protestant denominations in the town. With the establishment of churches this union effort was abandoned and each of the present churches has its own Sunday School.

The Primitive Methodist Church, of which Rev. Geo. Powis has been the pastor for the past fifteen years, had its beginning in 1830 with Rev. Wm. Donaldson as its first pastor.

Soon after in rapid succession followed other churches until now in Tamaqua there are 13 churches and the Salvation Army. Besides the Primitive Methodist which has already been mentioned there are: First Presbyterian, minister, Rev. Lloyd G. Ice; Calvary Episcopal. Rev. Harry Elston; Methodist Episcopal, Rev. W. E. Myers; Trinity Reformed, Rev. A. C. Thompson; St. John's Lutheran, Rev. Earl Mohney; Zion's English Lutheran, Rev. Geo. Gebert; Bethany Evangelical. Rev. L. L. Hosan; Salem Evangelical, Rev. C. C. Hoffman; St. John's Reformed, Rev. J. Arthur Schaeffer; St. Jerome's Catholic, Rev. Father D. J. Daly; St. Peter's and St. Paul's, Rev. Father Mukitis; and the Jewish Synagogue, Rabbi M. Levan.

Post Office

The first post office was established in Tamaqua under unusual and rather interesting circumstances. In 1831, H. Brown Ward was appointed as the first postmaster in Tamaqua. He established his office on West Broad St., near Lehigh St.

The people on Dutch Hill, becoming dissatisfied because of the distance of the office from their locality, persuaded the post office department, through Burd Patterson, to appoint a second postmaster for the town. Abraham Rex was appointed as this postmaster.

Tamaqua had then the unusual situation of one post office competing against another in the same town. The two could not long survive, so the post office under Rex was abandoned.

The first mail was received by canal at Mauch Chunk, thence transported over the Switch Back to Summit Hill and thence to Tamaqua by stage coach.

From the appointment of the first postmaster, 101 years ago, Tamaqua has had 21 men in that office as follows: H. Brown Ward, 1831; Wm. George also in 1831; Ferdinand Williams, 1835; Benj. Heilner, 1837; J. N. Speece, 1841; E. J. Fry, 1849; Peter Aurand, 1853; M. P. Fowler,

1861; D. M. Eveland, 1865; Harriet McGuigan, 1881; D. R. Boyer, 1885; J. A. Shilbe, 1888; H. C. Honsberger, 1889; Mary Honsberger, 1891; Chas. Beard, 1895; Chas. Shindel, 1900; F. D. Freudenberger, 1909; E. M. Hirsh, 1913; Robert Harris, 1923; Chas. Nahf, 1931.

The shortest term was that of the first postmaster, who served but 8 months; the longest that of Edw. M. Hirsh, who served ten years.

The first post office as stated, was on West Broad St., near Lehigh; the next was in the Aurand building on West Broad St.; then it was removed to the location of the present Elks building, in 1867; thence, in 1885, to Berwick St.; in 1889, to the Krebs building; in 1900, to the Shindel building, then, in 1926, to the Masonic building, and, in 1931, in a building on East Broad St., constructed for this purpose.

Turning from the postmasters and locations of the office to the personnel, we find an interesting story. The office was advanced into the second class on July 1, 1904, with four employes, postmaster, assistant, one clerk and one rural carrier. On May 15, 1908, free delivery was established, when four city carriers and two substitutes were appointed. Four of these men are still serving at the Tamaqua offices.

Under the late Fred Freudenberger, a parcel post carrier and a clerk were added; under Mr. Hirsh, two carriers, three clerks and a truck were added; under Mr. Harris, two carriers and one truck; under Mr. Nahf, another truck, a star route and two star route carriers, bringing the present force up to a total of 31.

Through the efforts of the late Congressman, Robert E. Lee, Congress passed an Act authorizing the purchase of a site in Tamaqua for a post office. For many years nothing was done in the matter until through the efforts of the late Congressman, G. Frank Brumm, several Acts were passed, increasing the amount set aside for that purpose The Act appropriated $27,000; additional acts increased this amount to $125,000.

On Dec. 27, 1926, the Congressman obtained the passage of an Act providing that the Secretary of the Treasury might purchase a site in Tamaqua, exempting the purchase from the clause relating to numerical rights.

This Act opened the way for the purchase of the site from Mrs Annie Schilbe, for the sum of $30,000.

The contract was awarded to the Conneen Construction Co. on March 5, 1932; ground was broken on April 1, 1932. The building without the furniture, represents an expenditure on the part of the government of $110,170.60.

INDUSTRIES

Among the most important industries in and around Tamaqua must of a necessity be mentioned the mining of coal at No. 14 Colliery.

From 1850 to 1860 the mines around Tamaqua were operated by Greenwood and Schuylkill Coal Companies, but they are now owned by the Lehigh Coal and Navigation Company. In 1860, there was a fire in this district. It went to a depth of 600 feet and lasted for 45 years. In 1904 plans were begun to extinguish the fire. One hundred sixteen, three inch holes were drilled to the depth of the old mines. Water and slush were poured down these holes. After extinguishing the fire there were three big bodies of water that had to be pumped from the mines. It took time and money, costing almost a half million dollars, to accomplish this grave task.

In 1905, there were two shafts sunk; one to hoist water from the mines and one to lift coal. The former was of four compartments and the latter of two. In 1915, a new four-way shaft was sunk on the northeastern end of the property. In 1927, at the northwestern end of the property a rocky slope, known as "The High Mines", was built. This was constructed so that it would be possible to erect large dams which would prevent water from coming from the Reading Coal Co. grounds.

The mining of coal was begun in 1908 and has continued until the present date. All machinery is now run by electric power. Three electric pumps, pump the water from the mines to the surface, instead of lifting the water by tanks which was the first method used. Where formerly two small locomotives and fifty mules used to do the hauling, now fifteen "locies" and three mules do the work.

When the men go into the mines they wear cap lamps on their head and carry Wolf safety lamps, which detect the presence of gas. The discharging of dynamite is done by electric batteries. All this equipment is supplied by the company. Every section of the mines is equipped with a telephone which is connected with one in the office

The colliery is ventilated by two large vulcan fans, one at the southern and one at the northern end, each circulating 500 cubic feet of fresh air per minute.

At one time the coal was washed by the water that came out of the mines, but it is now washed by fresh water which makes the coal cleaner and of greater market value Although the coal from this colliery does not have the luster of the coal from other collieries it produces greater heat than the average coal Under normal conditions, from 1800 to 2000 tons of coal a day are produced.

Retail men, stationed throughout the United States, take orders for the coal, and deliver it as it is shipped to them from the colliery.

At the present time, 300 men are employed. The executive force consists of Adviser, John T. Davis; one mine foreman; one general mine foreman; three shaft foremen; seven assistant foremen; and seven fire bosses; one outside foreman; one breaker foreman; two machinists; one machine boss; a weighmaster; and two coal inspectors.

The company supplies a wash house for the working men, which accommodates 500 men. The colliery has three First Aid teams, each team consisting of five men trained by the company.

Manufacturing Company

The Tamaqua Manufacturing Co. was organized in 1822, for the purpose of making stoves and repairs. Later, however, they branched into foundry and machine work, employing from 20 to 25 men. The company is building more shops. Thos. B. Boone was the first superintendent and the plant was located where the Jr. High School now stands. The Adams Fire Hydrant was made and patented by the Tamaqua Manufacturing works and sold in all states in the Union.

In 1891, Isaac Christ became superintendent, and Thos. Oliver, Assistant Supt. They enlarged the place and began making colliery and breaker machinery, employing from 100 to 120 men.

In 1895, the shops were moved to the eastern end of Tamaqua. Business increased rapidly; close to 200 men were employed and machinery was made for all parts of the world, including British Columbia, Germany, South Africa, England, Scotland. In 1901, C. E. Christ became

general manager and later, in 1913, president.

In 1908, the shops burned, but a new plant was erected soon after. In 1919, the Atlas Co. took over the company, changing the name to The Tamaqua Manufacturing Works. Because of present conditions there are only about 70 men employed, but from the time of its organization in 1882 the plant has never closed.

M. and G. Ice Cream Co.

In 1919, John Mealey and John Goodt established the M. & G. Ice Cream plant. It was operated for 9 months and then they formed a company.

In 1921, they constructed a new plant in Allentown. It cost one million dollars more than the estimated price. They operated the plant for three months in which time they made $27,000. This amount together with the financial backing was not enough to cover the amount to run the company and it fell into the hands of the receivers.

One year later the stockholders and creditors banded together and bought the Tamaqua plant. It was known as "The Made Good Ice Cream Co." The office holders of the company were: Pres., Dr. Geo. Wilfred, and Vice Pres., Chas. E. Christ. The executive committee was Solomon Billman, G. L. Walker, and G. M. Harris.

After the Company was run for 4½ years, it was sold to the Burdan Ice Cream Co., who are the present owners and who use the building constructed here as a distributing point.

Tamaqua Dairy

Tamaqua's leading dairy was started on July 8, 1914, by Solomon Billman and Clayton Steigmeier, in a portion of the building formerly known as Weldy's Shoe Factory. A few months later they purchased the remaining part of the building and remodeled it into a modern sanitary dairy. At present they are selling 3,000 quarts per day. There are fourteen persons employed in the plant.

Remaley Screen Factory

The Remaley Screen Factory, founded in 1883 by Louis Remaley was first located in Seitzinger's Hall. Its first production was the weaving of wire screen for use in sizing and cleaning coal in the anthracite industry.

In 1890, it was moved to the present location, on Cottage Ave. In 1910, it became incorporated. Besides making screens they also produced perforated metals. In 1913, the factory was destroyed by fire, but was replaced immediately by a fire-proof building. The average production amounts to about $250,000 per year. Twenty-five men are employed.

The factory is located in a modern building with up to date machinery, which is valued at $500,000.

The Reading Railroad

The Reading Railroad shops located in Tamaqua furnish employment to many people. The town being a terminus of the Shamokin Division, makes it an important railroad center.

Tamaqua Underwear Factory

Another thriving industry is the Tamaqua Underwear Factory employing nearly 200 people. Rayon undergarments are manufactured here and are sent to all parts of the United States.

Newspapers

The first newspaper published in the Borough of Tamaqua was the "Tamaqua Legion", established in 1840 by J. M. and D. C. Reinhardt. In 1860, the name was changed to the "Tamaqua Gazette", and two years later it became the "Tamaqua Anthracite Gazette", under which title it was sold, in 1861, to

R. N. Leyburn, who enlisted in the army the next year. The paper was published by Fry and Jones during the absence of the proprietor, the title then being the "Anthracite Journal." It was sold to the Monitor Publishing Co. and appeared under the management of Albert Leyburn as the "Saturday Courier" until it was again sold in 1872, Eveland and Schiffert becoming the purchasers. In 1871, the name of Harris became connected with this transitory publication and it was published by Eveland and Harris as the "Tamaqua Courier", until 1875, when it absorbed the "Anthracite Mointor", a labor journal which was begun in 1871 and had built up a large circulation and attained considerable influence. Through various evolutions the "Monitor" conveyed title to the old "Legion", and thus the "Courier" became the oldest paper in the town and was then the only one. In 1878, Daniel M. Eveland retired from the paper and the firm became Harris and Zeller until 1881, when Robert Harris became the sole owner, continuing as such until his death in 1897. The "Courier" was published as a weekly, except for a few months when Mr. Harris tried the experiment of making it a daily, until 1893, when he issued it as a semi-weekly, continuing publications until it appeared as a daily under the management of J. M. Harris. Mr. Harris and his brother R. H. Harris are now the sole owners.

The Evening Recorder was started in 1893 by R. H. Hirsh, and was published tri-weekly by E. Mac Hirsh, editor and proprietor, until it suspended publication.

103d Ammunition Train

On July 29, 1876, in Tamaqua, a group of men was organized as Co. B, 8th Regiment. The officers were: Captain, Robert L. Leyburn; 1st Lieut., Wallace Guss; 2nd Lieut., Thos. D. Boone.

On May 12, 1898 Company B left Tamaqua for Spanish American War service, which was the first Federal work done by this Company. The composition of the regiment upon reaching Camp Hastings was: 3 officers and 60 enlisted men in N. G. P. service, 44 of whom had volunteered.

On May 7, 1899, Co. B was mustered out of Federal service and left for home, doing so in such a quiet and orderly manner as to call forth the plaudits of all classes in Augusta. May 31, 1899, Co. B was reinstated with 50 men. July 9, 1916, Co. B was again called upon for Mexican Border service. They were mustered out of Federal service on Feb. 27, 1917, when they mobilized at the Armory.

On Oct. 11, 1917, they were changed from the 8th Infantry to the 112th Infantry. Oct. 22, 1917, the commanding officers of the Eighth Infantry became officers of the 112th Infantry. May 1919, this Company was mustered out of Federal service.

On Aug. 6, 1921, Co. B was reorganized as the 103d Ammunition Train, 53d Field Artillery, with Edw. C. Houser, Captain. This Train received State Recognition July 29, 1921.

Jan. 30, 1923, the 103d Ammunition Train received from General John J. Pershing, the right to bear on its colors, streamers in the color of the Victory ribbon with inscription as indicated: World War—Champagne—Marne; Aisne—Marne; Oise — Aisne; Meuse — Argonne; Champagne and Lorraine.

The 103d Ammunition Train ranks high and continues to be very active under: Captain, Edw. C. Houser; First Lieut., Chas. F. Endy; Second Lieut., Harry J. Knorr.

The American Legion

The C. H. Berry Post of the American Legion in Tamaqua was organized in July, 1917. Meetings were held in the Armory Hall. In 1932, the present home on West Broad St. was purchased from Dr. A. S. Lowen for $50,000.

Clarence H. Berry, after whom the Post is named, was born at 105 Elizabeth St., in town. He ran away from home and enlisted Sept. 11, 1917 at the age of sixteen in Company B, 112th Regiment, 28th Division, A. E. F., having falisfied his age. He was killed in action, Sept. 29, 1918, in the battle of the Argonne Forest, France.

The first commander of the Post was Gus. I. Knies, who served three years. Subsequent commanders were: Chas. A. Gebert, Franklin Billig, Eugene F. Sowers, Norman Griffiths, Harvey Dean, Thomas Brown, Harold Smeck, Samuel Douglas, Geo. Reese, Geo. DeFrehn

The present officers are: Commander, George DeFrehn; 1st Vice Commander, Jos. Stalgaitis; 2nd Vice Commander, Urban Henry; Adjutant, Howard Williams; Finance Officer, John Walters; Service Officer, Chas. Gebert; Executive Committee, Gus Knies, Claude Warner, Chas. Gebert, Samuel Douglas, Rev. W. E. Myers, George Reese, E. F. Griffiths, Howard Williams, Newton Fritz, and John Walters; Auditing Committee, Gus Knies, Claude Warner and Newton Fritz; Trustees, Gus Knies, Harvey Dean, Chas. Gebert and Claude Warner; Historian, B. B. Baer.

The Veterans Of Foreign Wars

The Veterans of Foreign Wars was organized on June 24, 1932, with 37 charter members. Solomon Stellfox was appointed temporary commander. On Aug. 5, a list of all comrades killed in action was secured and two names drawn at random. Those drawn were Frank Karalunas—the first native son killed, and Walter Moses, first member of the 112th Infantry to die. Thus post 1091 has the permanent name of Karalunas-Moses. On Aug. 13, 1932, the post was installed with a membership of 71. Solomon Stellfox is the present commander.

Fraternal Organizations

Among the fraternal organizations of the town are the Masons, the Odd Fellows, the Knights of Columbus, the Moose, the Eastern Star, the Dames of Malta, the Rebekahs, the Scott Encampment of Patriarchs, and the P. O. S. of A.

Banks

Tamaqua has three banks, all members of the Federal Reserve System. In 1869, the State of Pennsylvania granted a charter to the Tamaqua Banking and Trust Co., which, in 1904, was succeeded by the Tamaqua National Bank. Daniel E. Shepp was its first President; and the late Dr. C. B. Dreher served from 1884, first as a director, then as Vice President and finally, in 1908, as President, which office he held until his death in 1933. C. E. Christ now holds the position of President and Cashier.

The First National Bank was chartered in 1908, with John F. McGinty as President. E. M. B. Shepp is the present President, and Samuel Folk, Jr., is Cashier.

The People's Trust Company was chartered and opened for business in Aug., 1914. D. F. B. Shepp was the first President, while B. H Seltzer holds the office now. E. G. Wade has been Secretary-Treasurer from the time of organization.

Fire Companies

Tamaqua boasts of four well equipped efficient fire companies whose history dates back to 1852, when the Perseverance Hose and Steam Fire Engine Company was organized. Reliance Hook and

Ladder Company was organized in 1860; and in 1870 it was reorganized and designated as American Hose Co. No. 1. Since that time the Citizens, the South Ward and the East End Companies have been formed.

Henry Wittig, deceased, was the first fire chief in Tamaqua. He was followed by Irwin Bright, who was succeeded by Frank Behr who has served for the last eight years. The assistant fire chiefs of the town are Edw. Kohler, Raymond Sassaman and Peter Bonner.



Minersville Became Borough in 1831

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CHAPTER 1

The Beginnings

The site of what is now Minersville was once, of course, a beautiful wooded valley, nestling among five protecting hills. The small hill streams converging with a stream from what is now referred to as the Thomaston Mountain sent a goodly sized brook through the valley. Another stream still larger, the "West Branch" came from the valley of the "Gap Rocks" and at the junction of these streams the first settler saw an ideal site for a sawmill. The time was 1793.

This first settler was Thos. Reed, and the land directly below the mouth of Wolf Creek on which he built his home, a log house, was then a part of Branch Township. Not long afterward seeing an opportunity for a tavern he erected one on the present site of St. Vincent de Paul's Church. From the records it would seem that Mr. Reed was also a farmer and self-sustaining, for soon after he built a fourth structure, a distillery for converting his surplus grain into spirits. In this way he supplied refreshments for his inn which was long referred to as the "Half Way House" because it was half-way between Sunbury and Reading. The trail which passed it, later growing to a road, went to Sunbury and it is from this fact that Sunbury St. bears its present name.

Records of these early years are scanty but interesting. When Thos. Reed moved to the tavern, Peter Dillman became a sawyer at the mill and occupied the log house. Rumors of Indian invasion were sometimes current and in 1812 when a body of troops was moving from Northumberland over the Sunbury road, a small boy seeing them from a distance and mistakenly supposing they were Indians ran frightened and reported the fact to Reed who sent his family away and secreted himself, rifle in hand to await the coming of the savages. Sometime near this date Minersville had its first murder when a mail-carrier who traveled on foot between Reading and Sunbury was found dead at what is now Primrose. After the body had been buried a faithful dog who had remained sniffing at the grave of his master returned as tradition has it,

to Sunbury. Friends of the murdered man alarmed at the dog's returning unaccompanied made their way here and established the man's identity. The spot where the body was buried being directly behind the tavern, the ground was donated by Mr. Reed to the community as a cemetery. At this time he was serving as Justice of the Peace, Minersville's first. In fact, all of the premier distinctions go to the Reeds for in that family occurred the first birth in the community and the first marriage and when Thos. Reed himself died in 1814 his was the first death of an inhabitant. Among his descendants is Catharine Bannan Zerbey, wife of J. H. Zerbey, Jr., who succeeded his father in the work of printing the "Pottsville Republican."

CHAPTER 2

Minersville Begins To Grow

The buildings erected by the Reeds had remained the community's only structures for many years, but in 1828 a few new families made their way here and the discovery that coal operations could be profitably carried on in this vicinity rapidly increased the population.

Although Necho Allen had discovered coal in 1799, it was not until 1814 that actual mining of any kind began in Schuylkill Co. Then a scientist, Dr. McFarland, opened a vein at York Farm, near Pottsville, and four years later, in 1818, Jacob Reed, the son of the original settler, opened coal land in Minersville. Sometime later near the date of the town's incorporation, the first machine for breaking coal was erected in Minersville on the Wolf Creek by Mr. Bast. Minersville had its first industry. From this time on new families began to arrive rapidly and it soon became evident that community planning of a sort was necessary.

In 1830, therefore, Titus Bennet laid out the town in two grants of land. In the previous year a grant had been made to Lawrence Lewis and Robert M. Lewis and this second grant was patented to Titus Bennet, Dec. 7, 1830. Then in 1831, on the first of April, Minersville was incorporated as a borough and the act approved by Governor Geo. Wolf. Samuel Rickert was elected as the new borough's first Burgess.

Minersville's first settlers, of course, made their living by lumbering, the rough timber being floated by raft to Sch. Haven, but now, English and Welsh immigrants, familiar with coal-mining in their own countries, began to appear in the community. Germans and Irish also arrived and engaged in building and improving railway facilities. "Pennsylvania Germans" were attracted by the surrounding farm land, and by 1845 there was a population of 1,265.

The population growth has been as follows: 1840, 669 males, 596 females, total, 1,265; 1850, 1,469 males, 1,482 females, total, 2,951; 1860, 2,025 males, 1,999 females, total, 4,024; 1870, 3,699; 1880, 3,249; 1890, 1,694 males, 1,810 females, total, 3,504; 1900, 2,466 males, 2,349 females, total, 4,815; 1910, 3,800 males, 3,440 females, total, 7,240; 1920, 3,976 males, 3,869 females, total, 7,845; 1930, 4,775 males, 4,617 females, total, 9,392.

Social life in these early days centered first about the "Tavern" and then, as the population grew about the taverns, Minersville being noted, even in its early history, for the variety and good cheer of its hospices.

Fraternal orders had their inception comparatively early also, the Independent Order of Odd Fellows being established six years after the town's incorporation as a borough. To provide a meeting place for this and other similar organizations, permanent structures were erected on Sunbury St. The

Odd Fellows hall, one-half of its present width, was erected therefore, in 1852 and was the first three story building in the town.

Another organization designed to aid the sick and needy had its beginning in 1853 under the name of the German Beneficial Society. But these were not the only social lodges in Minersville. In addition eight other groups were formed in the first half century of the town's existence.

The next important industrial step was the founding of the Minersville Iron Works in 1838. At first it was merely a black-smith shop. Later a foundry, a machine shop, and boiler works were added and the business expanded until machinery, especially manufactured for sugar mills, was being shipped as far as Cuba. All the machinery necessary at the Gordon Plane was turned out at this shop, and the "Barney" first used on this plane was an invention of Howell Green, a master mechanic of the shop.

In 1848 when the legal boundaries of the town had been extended, other industrial ventures were given a trial, but all of them were abandoned eventually, until in 1850 almost the entire community was engaged in the predominant industry—coal mining.

Transportation in the early years could be managed only by stage-coach, and industrial shipments, principally coal, had to rely on the Schuylkill Canal. This water way had been begun in 1815 and extended from Phila. It is credited with having had great bearing on the town's development since it supplied an outlet, first for lumber and then later, of course, for coal. An idea of the extensive use to which it was put may be gathered by the county's records of shipment for 1843. In that year 119,972 tons were transported over this route, bound for Phila. and New York. The toll rate was but thirty-six cents per ton, with five per cent. allowed for waste, while the whole charge of a ton by railroad was from $1.10 to $1.25. Such competition was finally destroyed by the railroads, when the Phila. and Reading Railway Company leased the canal for ninety-nine years, and shortly thereafter abandoned it. For a while products were rafted down the west branch to Sch. Haven, but this practice soon ceased. Coal transportation was to be in the hands of the railroads exclusively from that time until the modern advent of trucking.

While mining was becoming firmly established many small settlements grew up about the operations. In many cases the land thus used, had been farms belonging to Dutch settlers and the "Patches," as they are still called, were therefore fairly compact.

By the middle of the century the scattered dwellings had become a pleasant little town with a representative business section and a reasonably bright outlook for expansion. About this date the town turned its attention to community needs and 1855 saw two important improvements; regular mail service established and the Minersville Water Co. incorporated. The water was brought from Big Run.

Lincoln's Call To Arms

Then, to this little settlement of some three thousand people came President Lincoln's call to arms, in April, 1861. Warfare previously had played but a comparatively small part in the town's history. A survivor of the War of 1812—Henry Hoenick—had been buried in the Union Cemetery and twelve men had left the town to engage in the Mexican War. Of these, one, Chas. Roney, had been shot while attempting to swim a river in an at-

tack on a Mexican fort. This was the town's first experience, however, in a major conflict. The response was immediate.

An offer of two companies was promptly accepted. One of these, known as the "Ringgold Rifles of Minersville", numbered 81 men and was under the command of Capt. Geo. Lawrence; the other, called the "Minersville Artillerists" comprised 78 men with Wm. Homer serving as their captain—a total of 159 from the heretofore little known town of coal miners! The services of these two companies were rendered with the National Light Infantry and Washington Artillery from Pottsville. Together with two other companies from surrounding districts, they arrived at Washington, April 20, 1861.

Four days later, a third company of 77 men numbering Minersville residents as its members and known as the "Schuylkill Guards" left to take up the defense of the Union. This company fought under the captaincy of Capt. Horace Bennett.

These three companies had enlisted for a three months' period only, but in August of the same year when the call came for a three year enlistment, another company—Co. F of the 48th Regiment was recruited with Capt. Horace Hoskin leading 72 men. The next year the third call came; this time for a nine-months enlistment period, and Minersville furnished Co. A of the 129th Regiment. Capt. George Lawrence, who had led one of the first volunteer companies, again served as captain. His career in this second venture, however, was to have a premature ending, for at the battle of Fredericksburg he was fatally wounded in action.

Of all who have taken up service two companies returned to Minersville. The war was over but it remained to honor those who had participated. The veterans immediately formed a post and named it in honor of Captain Lawrence. This, it is worthy to note, was the first post of the Grand Army of the Republic in Schuylkill County.

There were many to whom the town might and did pay homage. Foremost, perhaps, was Brigadier General Benj. C. Christ whose record was so notable that it is commemorated in a statue on the Battlefield of Antietam. There was Capt. "Jack" Crawford known as the "poet scout" whose courageous exploits won him national honors, Major George Brumm who had a remarkable military record and Jas. H. Levan who enlisted as a drummer boy and rose to the rank of captain—a remarkable achievement! There were the two officers, Col. Geo. Brown and Capt. John Parry, who had undergone periods of suffering and privation in no less than seventeen Southern prison camps. Then too, there was the heroic action of four soldiers, Jos. Dauty, Wm. Murphy, Thos. James and Harry Reese, at Petersburg. The account tells how these men who were miners by trade exploded a southern fortress crawling back into a tunnel to ignite a fuse that had failed to fire. Minersville had its proper share of heroes. It was to be another third of a century until a call to arms came again to the mining town.

The now flourishing little community went peacefully into the "70's", a period remembered by some of the present townsmen. At the Union Hotel on Westwood and Sunbury Sts., the red stage coach drew up making trips to and from Pottsville. Across the street at Deitz's shop, where Minersville's three main roads came together, horses were shod and wheels repaired. It was a picturesque period.

Again, for a time community needs received attention. A real want was supplied between 1864 and 1871, when four fire companies were organized—The Mountaineer Hose Co., the Good Will Hose Co., the Independent Hose Co., and the Rescue Hook and Ladder Co. This last bought a handpowered truck in 1871. All these companies were under the supervision of Jacob S. Lawrence. The streets had been in poor condition, the sidewalks being unpaved and dark, and they remained this way until 1885. Then the Globe Gas Co. provided a dim benzine lighting system and the sidewalks were paved. Newspapers had their beginning in 1872 when the Schuylkill Republican was established by Chas. D. Elliot and John H. Beck. The paper was purchased in 1879 by J. H. Zerbey who operated it until 1884 when he removed to Pottsville. The same year Chas. E. Steele founded the Free Press, a four page, eight column paper of Democratic trend. It was published every Saturday, and was to prove to be Minersville's only newspaper. After twenty-two years of operation, it was purchased by Ira B. Jones who has remained its owner until the present time.

In considering the social life, at this point, Minersville might be said to have an unpleasant chapter —the "Molly Maguires." These were a band who directed their activities principally against mine bosses, whenever they suspected these even remotely of any practice bordering on discrimination.

For awhile murder was rife. Due to an iron-clad alibi system the authorities were well nigh helpless, and for a long period no convictions whatever were secured. Finally, a resourceful operative of the Pinkerton Detective Agency, James McFarland, took a chapter out of fiction and posed successfully as one of the members. His first night in this region, it is interesting to note, was spent in Minersville—into which he wandered disguised as a tramp.

For three years he collected his information painstakingly and finally succeeded in hanging the ringleaders and permanently disbanding this organization.

This post war period resulted too, in the formation of new groups chiefly military, the Lawrence Post No. 17 being the first G. A. R. unit in the county. Other organizations formed previous or subsequent to this date include a Masonic Lodge, P. O. S. of A., the A. O. H., the Frugal Savings Fund, a Building Association and The Cambro-American Order of True Ivorites, this latter, a Welsh organization.

Public amusement was somewhat limited. The Opera House, the Mountaineer Hall, then considered an imposing show place was responsible for most of Minersville's drama in the later years of the century, two shows being produced a month with occasional productions featuring home talent. The G. A. R. supplied one gala week each year when they staged their annual fair and this practice has been continued in a sense by the carnivals brought in by the American Legion and the various fire companies.

The "eighties" and "nineties" probably witnessed Minersville's greatest industrial expansion as well as the appearance of its first real industrial destroyer — the strike. The first strike in the county was in Minersville and in 1888 there occurred a strike of two months duration in which the miners eventually were the losers. But expansion had begun. The Iron Works which had ceased operation were purchased by a Mr. Allison of Hazleton in 1888 and re-opened under the supervision of Jos. Gartley. The Minersville Shoe Factory was opened by the Schissler Brothers

in 1887. A soap factory had a brief existence under the ownership of Chas. Kopitsch in 1880. In 1888 too, the Oak Hill Colliery was launched by the Leisenring Co. By 1893 it employed 330 men and boys and had a bi-monthly payroll of $5,000. Railroads found their way to the coal fields of individual collieries about 1890, and in 1891 a Pennsylvania railroad built a branch line to coal fields of the Lytle Colliery. Two years later a new breaker was erected at the same operation which now employed 500 men. Pine Hill was then a comparatively small operation employing between thirty and forty men, and five other collieries were operating in the vicinity. Early in the nineties too, the trolley made its advent and service was established between Minersville and Pottsville. The first year of the nineties saw the incandescent light make its appearance, the Borough Council agreeing with the Minersville Electrical Co. for fifty lamps of 2,000 candle-power each. Soon after electric lighting had become the necessary equipment of many homes.

The First National Bank was erected in 1896 at a cost of $20,000; and it had no competition in Minersville until 1902, when the Union National was organized.

Ball and Burchel Lumber Co. was established in 1889 and became actively interested in building new residences. They were soon in demand.

Immigrants had begun to pour in. Italians encouraged to come by the railroad companies; Lithuanians and Poles attracted by the labor opportunities and encouraged by the coal companies. Minersville had begun to take on its present appearance.

The collieries operating in 1893 and the present condition are as follows: Oak Hill, employed 330 in 1893 and is still operating; Lytle employed 500 in 1893 and is now operating part time; Pine Hill employed 30 to 40 in 1893 and is now operating part time; Thomaston employed 400 in 1893 and is now abandoned; Glendower employed 600 in 1893 and was lately purchased by Jas. B. Neal; Otto employed 500 in 1893 and the Washery-Colliery is not operative; Phoenix Park employed 235 in 1893 and is now abandoned; Middle Creek employed 235 in 1893 and is now abandoned; total, 2,840 employed in 1893.

Later operations near Minersville: Pine Knot, now closed; Buck Run and Black Heath Coal Co. (Scotts) now operating, and Wolf Creek Washery, now abandoned.

(Note: A new colliery known as the "Indian Head", perhaps the most modern in America, employs few men. Its machinery was designed by Collier Kear, son of Chas. Kear and a graduate of Minersville High School.)

CHAPTER 3

Minersville Of Our Time

When the "Maine explosion" shook the country and precipitated war with Spain in 1898, Minersville had no separate companies. A number of young men did respond however, and from the number three perished, Michael Duffy, Elmer Smith and Roy Farne. Otherwise the war had but little effect on the town's activity.

The influx of immigrants, however, in such large numbers had a decided influence from this time forward. Many of them built their own homes in the locality of Schissler's Farm. This section became known as the "New Settlement" and in 1908 was incorporated as part of the Borough.

Again new ventures in industry began to appear but in one way or another failed to prosper. In 1902 the Anthracite Machine Works was founded and a Brass Foundry built as an addition to the machine shop, but after a brief operation of three years the company went bankrupt.

The Miners Brewing Co. erected in 1902 at a cost of $60,000 operated for only four years. After 25,000 additional dollars had been spent on improvements the plant was mysteriously destroyed by fire and not rebuilt. It would seem that Minersville's career in industry was to be concerned solely with coal and nothing else. The town experienced the great coal strike of 1902, which lasted six months. Riots occurred and the militia occupied tents on "Furnace Hill." Substantial gains seemed to have been made, however. For the next two decades Minersville was prosperously engaged in the mining of coal.

This period of prosperity was, of course, exaggerated to a feverish pitch during the war time. Like every other American town the war cry found an echo in Minersville.

In the first few months many young men enlisted in the service and later the "drafts" drew heavily on the youth of the town.

The town itself suffered some privations. Sugar was at a premium for a time, and when rumors that it might be obtained at a specified store circulated, a long line formed outside the establishment almost immediately. There were the "meatless days" and the "wheatless days", and all the while casualty lists were scanned anxiously as they appeared each evening in the Pottsville papers. Ever so often a yellow envelope brought definite telegramatic tidings of the death or serious condition of some local boy. Service flags hung on the homes of those represented in the Nation's armies. The Liberty and Victory Bond issues were oversubscribed as prominent citizens made three minute speeches at theatres and public gatherings. Many of the collieries took up the work and managed the subscription among their employees. Victories were celebrated with impromptu parades. And then finally, the Armistice and the jubilant welcome of the returning troops—it was a stirring time.

Some, however, did not return; they had given their lives. Among the dead were: Mathew F. Kyrus, Edwin C. Dorst, Wm. Duffy, Andrew S. MacCready, Wm. Kedal, Amos W. Morris, John Chas. Samanis, Wm. Boardman, Geo. V. Tracey, Wm. Reynolds, Vincent Farley and Edw. Curran.

Influenza Takes Toll

Just when peace was approaching, however, Minersville had a battle of her own to wage, more serious in measure of fatalities than had been the World conflict. Influenza of a fatal kind descended on the town during the autumn months. While local doctors were engaged in military duty the epidemic grew acute. A state physician with a corps of nurses arrived and established an isolation hospital at the extremity of Front St. Streets were practically deserted; doctors worked day and night unceasingly, and the scourge finally passed but not until over five hundred of the inhabitants had perished of the dread disease. In proportion to the population, Minersville had more deaths than any other town in the county.

In 1922 another six months strike of major proportions laid its hold upon the town, and from its ravages the community never fully recovered. Garment making, however, has proved to be the one surviving exception, and today is almost a substitute industry to take

the place of the coal industry as regards employment.

Lewis' Factory, established in 1897; the Coombe Factory, begun in 1919, and later purchased by the Bob and Baskind; the Phillips-Jones Manufacturing Co., with another factory erected in 1919; these have materially aided the working population. But here, too, misfortune was felt, for the factory of the Bob Company was completely destroyed by fire in 1929. A new and imposing five story brick structure was erected in its place, however, work beginning almost immediately after the disaster.

In these later years, progress has been made in unifying Minersville in a business way. The retail merchants formed an organization in 1927, which has been functioning successfully.

A Civic Club dating from 1930 endeavors constantly to attract new industries to the town in the face of the almost complete collapse of mining as a means of livelihood.

In this present century public taste for amusement has altered radically. The radio, the "movies" and the automobile do their best to make Minersville "modern". A State Highway Route (209) passes through the town.

There is but little to add to the record of Minersville's social and industrial life. As the name of the town attests, it has been bound up irrevocably with the coal mining industry; and since the partial (deterioration) of that industry, Minersville has been in need. In a double sense, it might be said, Minersville has felt depression; so much so that for the past two years hundreds of families have been fed by welfare work. A strange industry, coal bootlegging, has made its appearance. A few collieries continue normal operations, the garment factories, after labor disagreement upon the appearance of codification in industry, seem readjusted. But the prospect of future employment in Minersville must remain problematical. What lies beyond is not in the precinct of history.

One wishes that here there might be appended the long list of the illustrious of Minersville — those who have by talent in any field won wide recognition. Such a list, however, is extremely difficult to compile and still more difficult to verify. It runs the danger of offending by omission. Some figures, however, by their very commanding position in the town's history cannot be left out of such a history.

Such a figure was the Honorable Chas. Napoleon Brumm, who began his political career by casting his first vote for Abraham Lincoln. He represented this Congressional district at Washington, served several terms as Judge of the County Courts and was mentioned as a candidate for governor.

His son, the Honorable George Franklin Brumm, followed in his father's footsteps and was serving his fourth term in the National Congress when he died.

Wm. J. Richards, former president of the Phila. and Reading Company, is also a native son. Mr. Richards is recognized internationally as an authority on mines and mining.

Minersville at present is represented in the district attorney's office by Attorney John B. McGurl, who is serving in the capacity of assistant district attorney.

Claude Warlow achieved prominence as an artist. At present his masterpiece, a large mural bird's-eye view of "Philadelphia seen in the twilight of a snowy evening," hangs in the office of the Philadelphia Electric Co.

The late Joseph H. Zerbey, known nationally as a publisher and editor of the "Pottsville Republican", began his career in Minersville.

Another figure of importance in the political world was Judge Patrick M. Dunn, who was twice elected Judge of the Orphans' Court.

The Professions

The professions are represented by six lawyers, ten doctors and four dentists.

There are 232 places of business including barber shops, beer gardens and restaurants. In addition, there are eleven garages, five undertaking establishments, two bakeries, five tailor shops, three factories, two building companies, one ice plant and two hotels.

This concludes the record of Minersville's social and industrial life. The facts have been collected entirely by student committees. There are omissions, of course, necessary to a history limited both as regards space and time of preparation. No mention has been made of church history, or of schools in this division. These will be treated under separate heads.

CHAPTER 4

Churches

The history of the churches must. of necessity, be brief and therefore will be confined to an outline form. From the very outset, Minersville has been distinguished by its number of church-goers and it might be added, "church builders."

Twelve churches of Christian denominations and one Hebrew synagogue is numbered among the seventeen edifices now in use.

Horeb Welsh Baptist—1831—Welsh language used. (Now abandoned).

Methodist Episcopal—1834—Served by Pottsville pastor. First service held in store building (McPherson's) at Second and Sunbury Sts. In 1837 a building was erected on site of present structure. In 1838 it was connected with Orwigsburg Mission, but in 1839 it was again associated with the Pottsville charge. In 1841 it became a separate charge. Enlarged 1843.

First Congregational Church—1836—(also Welsh). First church edifice was on corner of North and Second Sts. The second stood on portion of site of the present building. It was thirty feet square and cost $700. Present church stands on the south side of Sunbury St., between Third and Fourth, and was erected at a cost of $4,000. Dedicated Feb. 9, 1848.

English Baptist—First rented a house on Northeast corner of Second and North Sts. (formerly occupied by Welsh Baptist and Congregational). In 1842 congregation bought small framed school house on South Street. This was sold a few years later and a lot bought on northwest corner of Third and South Sts. Here, the present building was built in 1865. Until this building was furnished, services were held for a time in the Odd Fellows' Hall.

Emanuel Reformed—1840 — Congregation worshipped in Lutheran Church building until 1867 when the present building was erected.

St. Paul's Protestant Episcopal—1845—Church was built in 1849 on North Second St. Present building was built about 1917 on Front St.

St. Vincent de Paul—1846—Rev. Hugh P. Fitzsimmons, assistant at St. Patrick's Church, Pottsville, was first pastor. Father Fitzsimmons erected a small frame building in cemetery lot. On April 21, 1846, new church was begun. Cornerstone was laid the same August. Parish in those days covered an area of 240 square miles. In 1848 Rev. Michael Malone was appointed pastor, and the interior of church finished. Brick pastoral residence

was built in 1852. Father Malone served as pastor for 28 years and 8 months.

German Lutheran. The date of this organization is not known. First place of worship was a school house. In 1849 present church building was begun. Since, it has been remodeled and improved.

English Lutheran—Organized in 1851. Congregation first worshipped in the small Baptist Church on South Street, then removed to Odd Fellows' Hall. Rev. Daniel Steck, of Pottsville, served as minister. In 1852, the present building was dedicated. An addition was made in 1933.

St. Mary's Church of Mount Carmel — (German Catholic) — 1855 — Church on Second Street was built in 1855. Rev. Matthew Jos. Meures was pastor until 1859.

Zoar Baptist Church—(Welsh)—Organized in 1874. Church built on North St. in 1874. Discontinued.

Other churches built since 1890: St. Francis of Assissi (Lithuanian R. C. C.) 1895; St. Nicholas Greek Catholic (Ukranian) 1896; St. Stanislaus Polish Kotska—1905; The Chev Sholom Congregation, Jewish. During years 1911-21 services were held in private homes and on top floor of the Odd Fellows' building. Residence of Rabbi, and synagogue are now located at Fourth and Carbon Sts.

St. Peter and St. Paul Greek Catholic—1912; St. Barbara's (Italian)—1913; and St. George's Ukranian Greek Catholic Orthodox—1919.

CHAPTER 5
Schools

The record of education is, of course, a vital matter in any history. Twelve years after Minersville was incorporated as a borough, it became a separate school district with an initial enrollment of one hundred and nineteen pupils. Prior to 1843, Minersville schools were combined with Cass and Branch Townships.

The first public school, situated on South Street, was taught by Chester and Eunice Stratton, in 1837. In this same year a two story school house was built on Twin St. A few schools were also opened in the basements of different churches; among these, the Welsh Baptist and Welsh Congregational.

Private schools enjoyed some prominence during these early years. A Mrs. Rodgers started a private school where, besides the common branches, knitting and sewing were offered. In 1854 a school was opened by Susan Kinsinger on Front St.

During the period of 1854-55 a third primary school was added to the public institutions. A school, for boys only, was opened in 1857. It was taught by Levi King. 1868 saw the erection of the Second St. school. The school on Third St. in 1881 became a night school for boys who had to work during the day.

1882 marked the advent of a long career in school circles for D. H. Christ. In that year he accepted a position in the grammar school and held this post forty-three years, serving first as teacher and later as principal.

H. H. Spayd was superintendent of schools at this time. He continuously endeavored to set Minersville schools on a high plane of learning. He formed a "Teacher's Reading School", which extended to various parts of the county. He also accumulated a library which helped to contribute to newer systems of education. At this time some Shakespeare was introduced as an opening to classic literature.

The first class graduated in 1882 and consisted of five members. Today, graduating classes are composed of sixteen times that number.

Crowded conditions in 1895 made necessary a new school building, located on S. Fourth St. In this newly erected structure the progress of school architecture was manifest; it was a credit to the community. This building served as the high school until 1910.

Wilbur Yeingst succeeded Mr. Spayd in 1908. Mr. Yeingst is credited with having started the "departmental system" in the high school; also having introduced the system of monthly marks and report cards.

When the grammar school was organized, the teachers were Misses Sarah Price and Carrie Kramer, and Mr. Christ, who was made principal in 1908. He retained that position until his retirement in 1926, when Miss Gertrude Brady, the present principal succeeded him Miss Kramer is still actively in charge of the Penmanship Department.

The present Minersville High School on Fifth Street was erected in 1910. This fine structure surpassed all its predecessors. It was occupied by the high and grammar schools.

In 1915 Mr. Yeingst was succeeded by the present superintendent, Chas. E. Roudabush. Under Mr. Roudabush's able superintendance the schools have prospered extensively. Expansion has been particularly noticeable—the new high school being perhaps the greatest single achievement. In 1931, Minersville was admitted to the Accredited Lists of the Associated Colleges of the Middle States and Maryland—one of the real distinctions that a high school may enjoy.

By 1927 the high school building became too crowded to admit grammar school pupils, therefore a temporary grammar school building was constructed across the street from the high school. An added feature was the occasional nutrition classes carried on under direction of the Anti-Tuberculosis Society.

The new annex to the high school building was completed in 1932. This doubled its capacity. It became a modern, fully equipped institution, with a gym, home economics department and science department, as well as a spacious auditorium with a well constructed stage.

This year, another physical education teacher has been added to the high school faculty, which now numbers twenty-three.

The State Fund designed to provide for unemployed teachers of the State has made it possible to open an Emergency Educational Relief Night School which has an enrollment of nineteen men and fourteen women between the ages of eighteen and sixty years. The same fund has made possible the services of a school nurse.

From 1843 with 119 pupils and four teachers, the public schools have grown until today there is a teaching staff of sixty teachers and an enrollment of 1648.

In brief, the history of the Minersville public schools is as follows: 1837, two teachers and ungraded schools.

1843, four teachers, ungraded and an enrollment of 119. 1853, four teachers, graded work begun, with J. W. A. Krewson, the Principal.

1854, six teachers, a high school with an enrollment of 40, a grammar school, secondary school, Nos. 1 and 2, and primary schools, Nos. 1 and 2. J. W. Danenhower was principal; Mr. Krewson having become the first County Supt. of Schools.

1856, seven teachers, and a grammar school No. 2 was added.

1857 found the district with eight teachers, an ungraded school and a continuation school, which was in existence until 1933. In 1868, there

was now a secondary school No. 3. which was later changed to grammar school No. 3.

In 1884, the schools were regraded and there were two sub-grammar schools and one grammar.

1885 found a secondary school No. 4 added. In 1890, grammar school No. 4 was added, and it then required nine years to reach high school.

1894 found the Fourth St. school building with the high school on the second floor and the remainder of the building devoted to grades.

In 1897, grammar school No. 4 was dropped, and it then required eight years to reach high school.

By 1904, there were nineteen teachers and the school property consisted of a high school, two grammar schools, three sub-grammar schools, 4 secondary schools and six primary schools.

In 1908, the high school was departmentalized and the system of report cards and monthly markings adopted. Miss Kate S. Richards was then the high school principal.

In 1911, the commercial course was added in the high school. By 1915, there was a total of 25 teachers in the Minersville public schools, five of them being in the high school, in which there were 191 students, with a total enrollment in the schools of 1683. C. E. Roudabush became the school superintendent in 1915 and has since acted in that capacity.

In 1926, a new grammar school was built, being completed in 1927: in 1932, an addition was built to the high school, and a home economics course was added to the high school curriculum. There were then 1581 students in the grades, 553 in the high school and 33 in night school. The high school principals since 1920 have been: Chas. J. Hendley in 1920; Grover C. Bair in 1921; Wm. A. Boyson, in 1924; Chas. L. White in 1926 and E. A. Brady in 1929.

The Parochial Schools

The parochial schools of the community have shown steady progress. Each individual school is supported by its own parish. The total enrollment this year in these schools is 607, or about 27% of the total school population.

In the earliest of these, St. Mary's, an attempt was made at first to retain the customs and language of the mother country but this was later abandoned. The original enrollment of 75 in 1889 has grown to a present enrollment of 150. Father Nerz was then rector.

The parish of St. Vincent de Paul opened a new school in 1921 on W. Sunbury St., with five teachers, sisters from Phila. in charge. There were 224 enrolled and a general course was taught. There were eight grades. In 1922, a two year commercial course was added. In 1933, the enrollment was 273 and there are six teachers in charge.

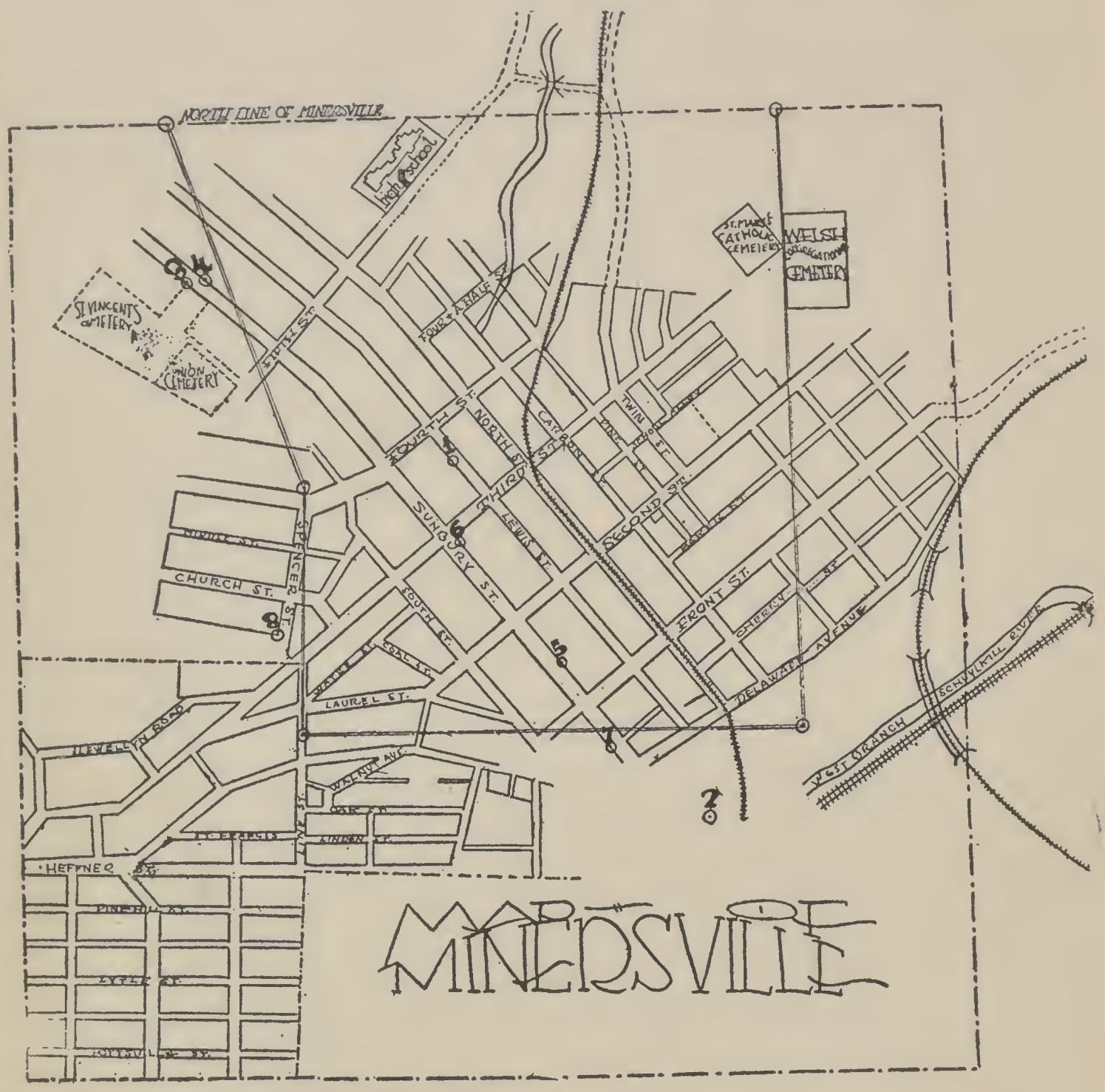
St. Francis Parochial School was opened in 1927, with four teachers. in charge of Sister Clotilda, and an enrollment of 163. There were four grades Lithuanian grammar, history and readings were taught, following the course of study of Chicago. The Rev. J. Karalius was the pastor. In 1928, there were five teachers and 250 enrolled; and five grades; 1929, there were seven teachers, 308 pupils, seven grades and the Rev. M. Daumantas, the rector; 1930, 8 teachers, 329 pupils, eight grades, and Sister M. Immaculata was the principal; 1931, eight teachers, 292 pupils, eight grades; 1932, nine teachers, 264 pupils and eight grades; 1933, nine teachers and 268 pupils, with Sister M. Hyacintha as Principal and the Rev. C. Klevence as rector.

St. Stanislaus' parochial school was founded in 1929 on Spruce St.,

with four teachers and 163 pupils enrolled. They follow a revised course of study for primary and secondary schools prepared by the Diocesan School Board for the purpose of establishing a definite system of grading and securing uniformity in methods of teaching.

The history of Minersville's schools has been one of progressive achievement and the success they have enjoyed is reflected best in the careers of the successful men and women who were trained under their guidance. The records of graduates in the leading colleges and universities bear evidence to the high standard kept unflinchingly. In the election of both school superintendents and school board members, Minersville's selections have been happy ones. In justice it must be said that the credit rests largely with the citizenry of the town, whose persistent interest in education has been unfaltering and sincere.

OLD TIME MAP OF MINERSVILLE



(1) Log house built by Mr. Reed; now back yard of Lucas's place.

(2) Saw mill on west side of Schuylkill River below the mouth of Wolf Creek.

(3) Tavern built by Mr. Reed; present site of St. Vincent de Paul's Church.

(4) Distillery—log building opposite rectory of St. Vincent de Paul's Church.

(5) Dengler Blacksmith shop where Mr. John Harvey and Dr. Francis Quinn are now located.

(6) Store North side of Sunbury Street near Third Street.

(7) One of the first homes was that of Mrs. Daniel Levan located where Gobitas' Hotel now stands.

(8) Welsh Baptist Church.

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